

YOU WERE FORMED FOR GOD'S FAMILY

Pursuing God's Purpose for Your Life, Part 2 of 5

In this COVID-19 pandemic many are feeling isolated and disconnected. Thankfully, God's plan is that His children experience a deep sense of belonging in His family. When we come to faith in Jesus, we become God's children, members of God's family, which is the church.

John 1:12 NKJV "As many as received Him [Jesus], to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name..."

Gal 3:26 NLT "You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

1 John 3:1 NLT "See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!"

Ephesians 1:5 NCV "Because of his love, God had already decided to make us his own children through Jesus Christ. That was what he wanted and what pleased him..."

As God's children, as brothers and sisters in Christ, we are family. And God's purpose for His family is that we experience healthy community...

1. In God's Family We Love One Another

John 13:34-35 NLT "I [Jesus] am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

1 Corinthians 14:1 NLT "Let love be your highest goal!"

1 Peter 2:17 CEV "Show special love for God's people."

2. In God's Family We Encourage One Another

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NLT "Encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing."

Hebrews 3:13 NIV "Encourage one another daily..."

3. In God's Family We Help One Another

Romans 1:12 NCV "I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you."

1 Corinthians 1:12 NLT "A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other."

Galatians 6:2 NCV "By helping each other with your troubles, you truly obey the law of Christ."

4. In God's Family We Respect One Another

James 3:18 MSG "You can develop a healthy, robust community that lives right with God and enjoy its results *only* if you do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with dignity and honor."

Romans 14:19-20 MSG "So let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words; don't drag them down by finding fault."

Psalms 133:1 GNT "How wonderful it is, how pleasant, for God's people to live together in harmony!"

Are you committed to fulfilling God's purposes for His family?

1 Timothy 3:14-15 NCV "I am writing these things to you... [so] you will know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church..."

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