

Family Life: “Belonging”

Belonging to a church family is a very special thing.

1. No Condemnation

A. Belonging to any healthy family means NOT being condemned.

(Romans 8:1) Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus.

(1 John 1:9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness.

(Rm 8:33-34) Who can bring an accusation against God’s elect? God is the One who justifies. Who is the one who condemns?

(Rm 8:38) For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will have the power to separate us from the Love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord!

B. Once we are in God’s family nothing can remove us.

2. Same DNA

A. All of us share the same “spiritual” DNA.

(Rm 8:11) And if the SPIRIT of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then He who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through His SPIRIT who lives in you.

Rm (8:14-17) All those led by God’s SPIRIT are God’s sons. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out “Abba, Father!” The SPIRIT Himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God’s children, and if children, also heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ...

B. The indwelling Spirit of God is what makes us family.

3. Family Resemblance

A. We begin, more and more, to resemble Jesus, and each other.

(Rm 8:29) For those He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers.

B. There is a process involved in which we are conformed.

C. Conforming us into the resemblance of Jesus might be unpleasant.

D. But being in the image of Jesus is wonderful.

(Rm 8:18) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us.