

#### **Focus Point**

As believers, we are part of a spiritual family and have roles to play within this.

## The Key Truths

When we are born, we are not born to be left on the pavement. Likewise, when we are spiritually born again, we are born again to be added into God's family.

In this session, we look at the wonderful truth that God adopts us into His family.

This does not only happen when we die but also in this life, the moment we accept Him as our Lord and Saviour we become part of His family. At this point, He becomes our Father and we are His children. It also means that instead of receiving judgement and punishment for our sin, as we deserve - we'll now inherit blessing as heirs of God in eternity.

### Scriptures to Consider

- Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT) "Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure."
- **John 8:44 (NLT)** "You are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does."
- **John 1:12 (NIV)** "To all who did receive Him [Jesus Christ], to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."

### **Group Discussion Questions**

Question 1: Who was our spiritual father before God adopted us?

**Answer:** We are born with a sinful nature which means that our spiritual father is the devil. We therefore naturally sin as no one has to teach us this. (This is a hard truth that many preteens may not have been exposed to in its raw state. Be prepared to discuss the myth that people are "inherently good"). The Bible says that we are dead in our sin.

Question 2: How do we become adopted by God?

**Answer:** We become God's children by accepting the forgiveness that Jesus offers through what He did on the cross, by repenting of (turning away from) our sin. When we believe what He said about Himself to be true, and believe in His name, we become children of God.

Question 3: What does it mean for me to be God's child?

**Answer:** I am loved, I belong, I have a spiritual inheritance, I am freed from the power of sin.

Make Suggestions: In what ways could you be involved in serving others in the life of your church?

# Word of the Day

Adoption

### Verse of the Day

"God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure." - Ephesians 1:5a (NLT)

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