

Galatians 3:26-4:7 — Sons of God

Warm-Up Question:

Name some things every child longs for from their earthly father. Briefly share how your father either gave or didn't give you those things.

READ: Galatians 3:26-4:7

I. SONSHIP: SECURED

- ▶ What does it mean that we were enslaved to the principles of the world (v. 3) & under the law (v. 5)? What did this mean for our relationship with God?
- ▶ What does it mean to be “redeemed” from being under the law (v. 5)?
- ▶ What was necessary for us to be redeemed from being enslaved and under the law from v. 4? Describe different aspects of Christ's humiliation (see WSC Q27 in sidebar for more help).
- ▶ Describe all the things Christ earned for us from v. 1, 5-7.

II. SONSHIP: EXPERIENCED

- ▶ Read v. 6 and Romans 8:16. What did God do so we might experience our adoption by God? How does that help us experience being a child of God?
- ▶ What are the fruits of a child really experiencing the affection from his/her father? What are some of the fruits of a Christian experiencing that from God?
- ▶ Are you personally experiencing the affection and other fruits of being God's beloved child? Do you feel joy and security and peace from his affection?
- ▶ How does going deeper in experiencing God as your perfect heavenly father influence the impact from your earthly father? How does it change how you live in general?

Westminster Shorter Catechism Question #27

Q. Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

A. Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life.

If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all. Adoption is the highest privilege the gospel offers.”

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

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