

Group/Individual Study

Series: "Be Free" - Children of God

Passages: Galatians 3:23-4:7

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 3/5

1. Read Galatians 3:23-4:7. These verses teach about how God relates to those who come to Him as beloved children.
  - a. What are traits that characterize how a great father relates to children he deeply loves?
  - b. How does God's love surpass that of any earthly father?
  - c. Do you find it hard or easy to relate to God from a place of believing you are this deeply and irrevocably loved? Explain.
  - d. When you fall short of believing that God loves you this way, how do you tend to relate to Him? (Judge? Disappointed parent? CEO or President you work for but have never met? Indulgent grandparent? Impersonal force? Other?)
2. Did your earthly parents make it easy or hard for you to relate to God as a perfect heavenly parent who loves you unconditionally? How so?
3. If you are a parent, how has the love you feel for your own kids opened a window of understanding about God's love for us? If you aren't a parent what are beautiful examples of earthly parental love that helped you better understand the love of God.
4. Galatians 3 expresses a concern that people who in fact have been adopted by God as beloved children may still relate to him like a "slave" or an "employee" or like someone "auditioning" to earn His approval.
  - a. What experiences, habits, or understandings have helped you move towards relating to God as a loving heavenly parent?
  - b. What are the things that tend to trip you up in terms of relating to God this way?
  - c. Who do you know that most seem to relate to God this way? What do you think helps them do so?