

- “Koinia” (Greek): Being as committed to each other as we are to Jesus Christ.

e) Household Love

John 13:35, NIV – “*By this shall all men know that you are my disciples - that you have love for one another.*”

Hebrews 13:1, NIV – “*Keep on loving each other as brothers.*”

f) Household Generosity

1 John 3:16-17, NIV – “*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need, but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?*”

g) Household Encouragement

Hebrews 10:24-25, NIV – “*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another ...*”

- If we haven’t encouraged someone by the time we this afternoon, we haven’t fulfilled God’s purpose for us meeting together

SUMMARY

Ephesians 2:19, LB – “*You are a member of God's very own family and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.*”

- Today, if you are a Christian, you are not alone
- You belong, you have a family, you have a place
- You are not an orphan, you have a home

MY NEW IDENTITY

4 – Member Of God’s Family

David Hibbert – February 6, 2005

BECOMING A MEMBER IN GOD’S FAMILY

Ephesians 3:14-15, NIV – “*For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.*”

- Our identity as a member of God’s family is derived by who God is to us. If you really want a sense of identity as a member of God’s family, you must embrace God as Father

1. You Are A Member Of God’s Family

Ephesians 2:19, LB – “*You are a member of God's very own family and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.*”

Family Benefits:

a) Protection

Genesis 7:1, NIV – “*The LORD then said to Noah, ‘Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation.’”*

b) Sin Covering

Exodus 12:3, NIV – “*Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household.*”

c) A Permanent Place

John 8:35, NIV – “*Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.*”

d) Special Privileges

Galatians 6:10, NIV – “*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*”

e) Family Relationships

1 Timothy 3:5, NIV – “*If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?*”

f) Acceptance From Our Elder Brother

Hebrews 2:11, NIV – “*Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.*”

g) Influence Over The World Around Us

1 Peter 4:17, NIV – “*For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?*”

2 Chronicles 7:14, NIV – “*If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*”

2. You Belong In God's Household

Ephesians 2:19, LB – “*You are a member of God's very own family and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.*”

Household Benefits:

a) Provision

Matthew 24:45, NIV – “*Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time?*”

b) Fruitfulness

Psalms 92:13, NIV – “*Planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God.*”

c) Financial blessing

Malachi 3:10, NIV – “*Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the LORD Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.*”

d) Intercession

Hebrews 10:21, NIV – “*... we have a great priest over the house of God ...*”

e) Ministry Opportunity

1 Peter 2:5, NIV – “*You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*”

3. Requirements Of Household Members

a) Household Behaviour

1 Timothy 3:15, NIV – “*I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household ...*”

b) Household Zeal

Psalms 69:9, NIV – “*For zeal for your house consumes me ...*”

c) Household Prayer

Matthew 21:13, NIV – “*... My house will be called a house of prayer ...*”

d) Household Faithfulness

Hebrews 3:5-6, NIV – “*Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, testifying to what would be said in the future. But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.*”

Acts 2:42, NIV – “*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship ...*”