

*John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

1. Introduction – how to become God's child

a. First receive Jesus into your life

b. Second believe in Jesus name

i. You believe in Jesus of Nazareth

ii. In the name of Jesus God saves you

*1 Corinthians 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

iii. Believe that Jesus can save you from your sins

*John 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*

iv. Believe that Jesus is the only way to be saved

*John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

v. Believe only in the name of Jesus

*Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

vi. Jesus will take you home to heaven

*John 14:1, 3<sup>1</sup> Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ...<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

c. Third, then God gives you a certain power

d. What is that power? To become God's child

2. God's plan

a. Salvation means saved from:

i. Death

*Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

- ii. Punishment
    - iii. Lake of Fire (2<sup>nd</sup> death)
  - b. All are sinners
 

*Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
  - c. God's gift
    - i. Sinner cannot earn salvation
 

*Ephesians 2:8-9 <sup>8</sup> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast.*
    - ii. God's free invitation
 

*John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*
3. God adopts the sinner
- a. Meaning
    - i. Chosen
 

*Ephesians 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*
    - ii. Accepted
 

*Ephesians 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.*
  - b. In the family of God
    - i. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit of truth
 

*John 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*
    - ii. Holy Spirit called the "Promise of the Father"
 

*Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*

*Acts 1:4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.*
    - iii. Holy Spirit also called the Spirit of adoption
 

*Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

4. God is your Father

- a. As child of God, you submit & obey your heavenly Father

*1 Peter 1:14-15* <sup>14</sup> *As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:* <sup>15</sup> *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;*

- b. You are in God's care

- i. God provides for you

*Psalm 37:25* *I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*

- ii. God protects you

*Psalm 18:2* *The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.*

5. Pray to your Heavenly Father

- a. Christians cry out to their "Daddy"

*Gal 4:6* *And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.*

- b. Heavenly Father gives better gifts

*Matthew 7:11* *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?*

- c. Come boldly to God in prayer

*Hebrews 4:16* *Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

- d. Come to God any time & any place

*Jeremiah 33:3* *Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.*

- e. Pray now – do not wait

*Psalm 55:17* *Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.*

6. Children represent the family

- a. Follow God

*Ephesians 5:1* *Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;*

- b. Others see your good works

*1 Peter 2:12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by [your] good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.*

- c. Follow Jesus example to forgive

*Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.*

- d. See God's example doing good to all

*Matthew 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.*

- e. Follow God's example

*Matthew 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;*

- f. God's workmanship to do good works

*Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*