



Main Point: Know the greatness of God's love for you

- 1. Through faith you are in Christ**
- 2. Through faith you are sons of God**
- 3. Through faith you are heirs according to promise**

1:

"The question can be answered in many ways, but the richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father...Our understanding of Christianity cannot be better than our grasp of adoption...The truth of our adoption gives us the deepest insights that the New Testament affords into the greatness of God's love."

Jl Packer
Knowing God

2:

"I, ash, dust, and full of sins, was speaking with the living God, the eternal and true God. At such a time, someone should shake with fear such as when I read my first mass...I was utterly stupefied, and terror-stricken by these words (read in the mass, "We present to You, the living, True and Eternal One...") Because I thought: how can I as a mere man address the divine Majesty as if I was in the presence of or in discussion with a... (mere human) king?"

Martin Luther

3:

"Paul is not being gender-specific and ignoring women. In Galatians 3:27-29 he makes it clear that both males and females are included in the category of sons. Then why sons? Because Paul was placing a priority on communicating clearly to his immediate audience. In the Jewish culture of the day, only males were eligible to receive a part of the family inheritance. So, far from putting down women or ignoring them, he is actually making them equal with men in sharing the family inheritance. We are all one in Christ Jesus, spiritual offspring of Abraham, and equally heirs of God's promise."

Jerry Bridges
Who Am I? Identity in Christ

4:

"We need the forgiveness of our sins, and assurance of a restored relationship with God, more than we need anything else in the world; and this the gospel offers us before it offers us anything else...But contrast this, now, with adoption. Adoption is a family idea, conceived in terms of love, and viewing God as father. In adoption, God takes us into his family and fellowship – he establishes us as his children and heirs. Closeness, affection and generosity are at the heart of the relationship. To be right with God the judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by God the Father is greater."

Jl Packer
Knowing God

5: Romans 8:15-16

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,



6:

“Your prayer is not one cent less valuable than St. Peter’s. And this is the reason: I will grant that he is holier as far as his person is concerned, but the commandment and obedience upon which St. Peter based his prayer I base my own also. You have needs enough: You are lacking in faith, in love, in patience, in gentleness, in chastity; my wife, my children are sick. Then pray undauntedly and with sure confidence, because God has commanded you to pray. He did not command it in order to deceive you and make a fool, a monkey of you; he wants you to pray and to be confident that you will be heard; he wants you to open your bosom that he may give to you.”

Martin Luther