

# THE FAMILY OF GOD

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**Introduction:** Love is what makes family a family.

**Text:** Ephesians 3:14-15

## Basic Questions:

1. How does a person become a member of the human family?
2. How does a person become a member of God's spiritual family?
3. How does a person get born-again spiritually?
4. Why is spiritual rebirth required of all people to become God's spiritual children?
5. Which is God's family in heaven (Eph. 3:15)?
6. God's family on earth—the church militant—is engaged in warfare. Why?
7. What are the connotations of "circle" as it relates to the family of God?
8. In our family circle, who do we have?

**A. We have God as our Father**, who is committed to our spiritual training and development (Heb. 12:5-8, 10-11).

**B. We have Jesus as our Big Brother**, who defeated temptation, the devil, and death for us (Heb. 2:11-18).

**C. We have the Holy Spirit as our Counselor** who comforts us, teaches us, and guides us (John 14:15-17; 15:26).

## Application/Conclusion:

1. As God's family circle, God must always be in the center of our life—why?
2. To win people to Christ as a winning church, our identity as a "family of God" must be real, because people are usually attracted to follow Christ when they see love in action among members of the church (John 13:34-35; Col. 3:12-14).

3. Challenge: Let us ask God daily to help us live up to our noble identity as the family of God.

## TABLETALK STARTERS

(For family devotions and Life Groups)

1. Review the sermon outline, and recall the sermon you heard from the pulpit last Sunday. Before you come to the Bible study, view the sermon on our church website to refresh your mind.
2. In what sense is God's family in heaven the church triumphant, and God's family on earth, the church militant?
3. What gives the church as the family of God a distinct identity that should attract unchurched people to Christ and the church (John 13:34-35; Colossians 3:12-14)?
4. Why is keeping God at the center of our lives, at the center of our families, and at the center of our church, a continuous challenge to us, as the Family of God?

**PRAY!**