

CELEBRATING OUR ADOPTED FAMILY

Jeremiah 3:14-18

Family can be described as persons who share the same genealogy. You cannot deny members of this family because we are related by blood. When family is not blood related it means that a person is adopted. Adoption is manifested in two ways: legally and by love. Love is the bond that holds family together. The church is considered an adopted family for many of us. Some of us are closer to our brothers and sisters in the church than to members of our own blood family. This is why we should celebrate our adopted family.

The beauty of family is demonstrated by God himself. When we are a part of His family we should remember that God loves us in spite of us trying to leave Him. Our text tells us that God is married to the backslider. His desire is to bring us back to the family of love when we wander astray. Our disobedience leads us away from God's presence as we drift away from Him. When we come to know the Lord, we are adopted into the family of God. God loves us into His kingdom. The family of God has a responsibility to love our brothers and sisters into the kingdom of God.

Let me share with you three reasons why we can celebrate our adopted family. The Adopted Family in the church has the following three things in common.

1. Family Viewpoints.
 - A. Focus on the Lord
 - B. Feed on His Word

2. Family Values.
 - A. We value God's presence
 - B. We value God's peace

3. Family Virtues.
 - A. Virtue of righteousness
 - B. Virtue of reconciliation