

# Part of God's Family



## Getting Started

What does your family mean to you?  
How do they help to make you who you  
are? How do you think you would be different without them?

God is the creator of families. He planned for husbands and wives to be “united as one”, and for them to have children together. It gives him joy to see families loving each other. But your earthly family is not the only family God planned for you. God’s purpose for all of us is to adopt us into his family. When we believe in him, he becomes our Father and we become his children. Our families on earth are temporary. But God’s family will live forever.

## Improving Your Vocabulary

**united (adj)** - brought together; made one

**adopt (v)** - to make someone part of your family

**duty (n)** - a job; something you should do

**commandment (n)** - something you are told to do

**disciple (n)** - a student and follower of Jesus

**Gentile (n)** - a person who is not a Jew

**baptize (v)** - to go through a Christian ceremony symbolizing spiritual cleansing and rebirth

**division (n)** - separation

## Reading God's Word

### Ephesians 5:33 and 6:1-4

**33** Every husband must love his wife as himself, and every wife must respect her husband. **1** Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents, for this is the right thing to do. **2** “Respect your father and mother” is the first commandment that has a promise added: **3** “so that all may go well with you, and you may live a long time in the land.” **4** Parents, do not treat your children in such a way as to make them angry. Instead, raise them with Christian discipline and instruction.

### Matthew 12:46-50

**46** Jesus was still talking to the people when his mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside, asking to speak with him. **47** So one of the people there said to him, “Look, your mother and brothers are standing outside, and they want to speak with you.” **48** Jesus answered, “Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?” **49** Then he pointed to his disciples and said, “Look! Here are my mother and my brothers! **50** Whoever does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother, my sister, and my mother.”

## 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; 25-26

**12** Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts. **13** In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink. . . **25** And so there is no division in the body, but all its different parts have the same concern for one another. **26** If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

For further study, see Genesis 2:24; Matthew 10:37-39;  
and Romans 8:14-16.

### Taking a Closer Look

1. What duty do we have towards our family members? (Ephesians 5:33 and 6:1)  
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2. “Respect your father and mother” is a commandment. What promise goes along with it? Do you believe this is true? (Ephesians 6:3)  
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3. Who does Jesus say are his family members? (Matthew 12:49)  
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4. If you were Jesus’ mother or brothers, would you feel rejected? Why or why not?  
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5. What point do you think Jesus was trying to make?  
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6. What kind of people can belong to the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 12:13)  
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7. What kind of unity is in the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 12:26)  
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8. Do you think loving God can help you love your family more? Why or why not?  
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## Taking Action

1. What are some things that keep us from loving and caring for our family? How can we overcome these barriers?
2. Jesus loves us and calls us his brothers and sisters. How can we show a Christ-like love to our family, friends, and co-workers?

## Memory Verse: Hebrews 2:11

**He purifies people from their sins, and both he and those who are made pure all have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his family.**

## Review the Vocabulary

*Fill in the blanks with the correct vocabulary words. Then discuss your answers to the questions with a classmate.*

1. Do you think you would ever \_\_\_\_\_ anyone into your family? What kind of person would that be?
2. What are some of your \_\_\_\_\_ at your job? What \_\_\_\_\_ do you have towards your friends and family?
3. Has there ever been a \_\_\_\_\_ between you and one of your family members? How did you—or how could you—resolve it?
4. Do you feel like you are \_\_\_\_\_ with any other person? Who and why?



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