

Lesson 2

“The Household of God”

I. The Family Feature of the Church:

- A. The word “house” is used to designate families (Acts 10:2; Heb. 11:7; Luke 1:27).
- B. Church referred to as House of God meaning Family of God (1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 3:6; Eph. 2:19; 3:15).

II. Salient Features of God’s Family—the Church:

- A. God is the Father (Eph. 3:14; 4:6; Matt. 23:9; 1 Cor. 8:6).
- B. Christ, a son over the House of God (Heb. 3:6); Christians, His brethren (Heb. 2:12; Matt. 23:8; 25:40).
- C. All Christians are children of God:
 - 1. Sons and heirs (Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:7); In Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:26).
 - 2. Children of God—Children of Devil (1 John 3:10).
 - 3. “Church of God the Father” (1 Thess. 1:1).
 - 4. Conclusion:
 - a. All of God’s children are in God’s Family.
 - b. God’s Family is the Church.
 - c. Therefore all of God’s Children are in the Church.

III. Blessedness of This Relationship:

- A. Approach to God as Father (Matt. 6:6-9; Eph. 3:14).
- B. Christ our Great High Priest and advocate to plead our cause (Heb. 4:14; 10:21; 1 John 2:1).
- C. Holy Spirit to lead and guide us (Rom. 8:14).
 - 1. Receive Holy Spirit because we are sons (Gal. 4:6).
 - 2. To walk by Spirit (Gal. 5:16).
 - 3. Spirit is the Truth (John 1:17; 1 John 5:7).
- D. God’s fatherly provision (Rom. 8:32; Jas. 1:17; Matt. 6:8, 33-34; 7:7-11).
- E. God’s fatherly correction (Heb. 12:4-11).
- F. God’s fatherly protection (Phil. 4:5-7; 1 Cor. 10:12-18).
- G. God’s ever present Love (1 John 3:1; Rom. 8:38-89).
- H. Heir of God (Rom. 8:17; Gal. 3:29; 1 Pet. 1:3-5).

IV. This Relationship Demands:

- A. Separation from world (2 Cor. 6:17-18; 7:1; 1 John 2:15-16).
- B. Obedient as children (1 John 3:10; 1 Pet. 1:14; Eph. 5:6; Rom. 8:12-17); walk not after flesh (1 John 1:6-7).

- C. Wear family name (Acts 4:11-12; 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:15-16; Col. 3:17).
- D. Love our brethren (1 John 4:7, 20-21; 3:13-19).

V. How We Become Children of God:

- A. By being born again (John 3:3-5).
- B. By faith and baptism (Gal. 3:26-27).
- C. By obedience to God's word (1 Pet. 1:22-23).

Questions for Discussion:

1. If the Church is God's family, how many churches does God have? _____

2. How many of God's children are in the Church? _____

3. What blessings are available to God's children? _____

4. How do we become children of God? _____

5. As children of God, how must we treat one another? _____

6. What position in God's family is accorded to Christ? _____

7. What is demanded of God's children? _____
8. Can a child of God be finally disinherited (1 Pet. 1:3-5)? _____

NOTES
