

sermon notes

FREEDOM

Part 5: Living in Relationship with God

SLAVES VS. SONS

“You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.”

Galatians 3:26 NIV

“But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.”

Galatians 4:4-7 NIV

The slave has a _____.

The son has a _____.

“The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”

Romans 8:15-16 NIV

The slave is an _____.

The son is an _____.

“Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God, and so co-heirs with Christ...”

Romans 8:17 NIV

“Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.”

Philippians 2:12-13 NLT

The slave is driven by _____.

The son is driven by _____.

“As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!” “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better...”

Luke 10:38-42 NIV

LIVING IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

“Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God--or rather are known by God--how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?”

Galatians 4:8-9 NIV

1. See God as a good _____.

“Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”

Matthew 7:9-11 NIV

2. Approach God through _____.

“You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

John 5:39-40 NIV

3. Give God my _____.

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the LORD. Relationship changes everything.”

Jeremiah 29:13-14 NIV

Consider and Discuss

Before Jesus died on the cross and made way for the New Covenant, the Jews lived under the burden of the law and served God out of fear and obligation. But once Jesus fulfilled the law and gave the ultimate sacrifice that replaced all other customs and sacrifices of the Old Covenant, God's relationship with the world changed. We now have the opportunity to receive a spirit of sonship. God desires for us to be a part of His family. He invites us to have a relationship with Him, to become a son instead of a slave. Slaves are the employees of a master, driven by duty, but sons are heirs of a Father, driven by devotion. God leaves the choice up to us: will we be slaves to religion and the law, or will we embrace our position as his children and serve Him out of love and devotion? Relationship changes everything.

- Talk about the difference between a master and a father. Talk with the group the area in your life that makes you most thankful for the Father's love.
- This week we discussed the differences between slaves and sons. Discuss how you will focus on becoming more of a “son” this week.

