

# Father's Day 2021

## Adopts, Redeems, Sanctifies

Grace Fellowship Church / Zach Ashley / June 20, 2021

Believers, fathers – keep running, keep fighting, keep training, keep on keeping on...and most of all, keep loving like Jesus.

Our Heavenly Father and our relationship with Him is what matters most. He loves you and wants you to come to Him as a child and give yourself to Him.

When we get at least a glimpse of how much He loves us, it changes everything. It changes how we see our circumstances, how we view and treat our neighbors, and how we relate to our family.

**1 Corinthians 2:1-5** “And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup> and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”

### I. He Adopts Us - Ephesians 1:3-14

Your story and my story start with brokenness and separation from a Holy God.

We were all orphans. We've been given a new name, robed in righteousness, joint heirs with Christ.

“I have a Father in heaven who loved me from before I was born. He knew my story before it was written. He moved heaven and earth to send His Son into this twisted world to redeem it. He had to dip down into the creation He'd perfectly made and get the mess all over Himself and His Boy to save us from destruction because He knew without it we'd be condemned forever. He loved us enough to do that. To live, to die, to live again. He loves us still. Enough to invite us into His forever family regardless of our past or race or social status or demeanor or looks or...anything. He gave everything to make us belong – to make us His sons and daughters...”

~ Danielle Ashley

Do you often think about how far your Father came to give you a new name? Is this adoption truth from scripture impacting your relationships, your marriage, and your relationship to this local church family?

## II. He Redeems Us - Galatians 4:3-7

It was the Father's plan to save His chosen people and the Son voluntarily agreed to become a man in order to carry out the Father's intentions (Phil. 2:5–8).

Spiritually dead people have no power to pay the price for their sins—only a sinless person can do that and that is why the Son of God became a man.

The first two words of the Lord's Prayer are "Our Father." We can have this relationship with a holy God because we have been redeemed. He redeems, and that gives Him glory and reminds us who we are.

"This generation has a Father, He just may not have been properly introduced to them."

~ John Sowers, *Fatherless Generation*

Are you introducing others to a redeeming Father through your actions? Would your comments or liked articles on social media be communicating a redeeming love that all people, regardless of their view on a cause or candidate, would see a picture of our Father?

## III. He Sanctifies Us - Romans 8:12-17

In the Son, we have become heirs of the Father's kingdom. This high calling comes with a price tag, for just as the Son glorified His Father while on earth, so we too are called to glorify Him. We cannot do this in our own strength, but only in and through the relationship that the Father has entered into with us, through the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Suffering doesn't mean He doesn't love us; asking us to do hard things is actually a direct result of His love and care for His children. His discipline can be transformative. He is making us more like Him in situations of suffering.

Can you see things in your life that look more like Christ than when you first believed?

**Ephesians 3:14-21** "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup>that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."