

We Are God's Family
Prioritizing God's Heart for Family
Ephesians 4:1-3

The Two Goals of God in Saving Us

Paul wrote Ephesians to help Christians understand the two most important priorities of God in the life of a Christian.

The Work of Salvation

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit's Work
To Transform Us- Ephesians 1:3-23**

Two Things We Need to Understand in Depth (Eph. 2)

1. God's Aspirations for Me

My Life: as a Child of God

*BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURE
Ephesians 2:1-10*

Dead to God

Now Alive to God

Created to work for God (2:10)

2. God's Desire for Real Family

Our Life: as the Family of God

*BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURE
Ephesians 2:11-22*

Divided People

Now a United Family

A Growing Organism (2:18-22)

Paul's Commitment To Help Us Grow Up (Eph. 3)

1. *To become a Child of God empowered by the Holy Spirit to do God's Work in the world.*
2. *To become a Family of God united in love and purpose serving God as Our Father.*

Our First Priorities as Christians (Ephesians 4:1-3)

1. **Understanding and committing to God's goals. (4:1)**
2. **Nurturing my relational abilities in order to sincerely love my Christian siblings and grow a healthy family. (4:2)**

3. **Being diligent to preserve the "unity of Our church family" in a peaceful ways wherever I go and always. (4:3)**

4. **Being consistently mindful of the truths that unite! (4:4-6)**

- One Body-** Each of us has God's DNA... we are family
- One Spirit-** Each of us is transformed by the same Spirit
- One Hope of God's Calling-** God's aspirations for us are uniform
- One Lord-** Each of us embrace Jesus as Lord
- One Faith-** Each of us receive all promises by faith
- One Baptism-** Each of us is baptized into the same family
- One God and Father who is over us, through us and in us-**
Each of us lives as a manifestation of the same Father
His DNA pumps through every one of us as His children

Seven Truths Make Us Brethren Wherever We Go

- **Agreement is not necessary: It is not agreeing in everything we believe but rather a family connection that Jesus spiritually birthed.**
- **Same Church Doesn't Matter: It has nothing to do with where we go to church but is a connection we celebrate in every Christian gathering.**
- **Serving Everywhere I Go is a Priority: It demands an "all in" disposition in every gathering simply because we are brethren.**
- **Needs of Particular Local Expressions May Require Adjusting Choice of Local Involvement: Our unique gifts and abilities may be more needed in places less preferred for self.**