

Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. ²⁴ So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. ²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
Galatians 3:23-29

*What it means to be **The Family of God**:*
The people of God are a family.

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,
v26

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² **Yet** to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.
John 1:11-13

The people of God are a family of grace.

So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.
v24-25

know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.
Galatians 2:16

The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"
Galatians 2:20-21

The people of God are a family of faith.

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,
v26

Faith in Jesus is not a one-time confession it's a lifetime commitment.

The people of God are called holy & growing in it.

for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.
v27

Therefore, **as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with** compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
Colossians 3:12-14

The people of God are a people from all people.

There is **neither** Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all **one in** Christ Jesus.
v28

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, **from every nation**, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: **"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."**
Revelation 7:9-10

The people of God are heirs of the future.

If you belong to Christ, then you are **Abraham's seed**, and **heirs** according to the promise.
v29

We're not only heirs of the promise we are the stewards of it. The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. ² **"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing."** ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
Genesis 12:1-3

*Why it **matters**:*

The church is God's plan A for changing the world.

He said to **them**: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you**; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts 1:7-8

*What it looks like at **The Brook**:*

Bring your whole self & let the Holy Spirit do the editing.

“were baptized **into Christ**... clothed yourselves **with Christ**... one **in Christ Jesus**...belong to **Christ**...”

We live & lead from the love of God.

For **Christ’s love compels us**, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

The mission of God is worth my full participation.

Closing Considerations:

Find & fight for friendship, don’t force it.

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.

Proverbs 17:17

Invite & welcome others into the family.

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ **I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also.** They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

John 10:14-16