

# *NBCC KIDS*

## NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

**“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will tell people about me in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria. And you will even tell other people about me from one end of the earth to the other.”**

**~Acts 1:8**

Several years ago I was sitting in my old kitchen in Massachusetts with my oldest son, and somehow we started talking about favoritism and how parents play favorites. Having grown up an only child, this was a new concept to me because I *knew* I was everyone's favorite! So for me to think that my children felt like I played favorites was a bit of a shock. I never felt like I played favorites and I never wanted my children to feel like I paid more attention to, or liked one child over the other.

I asked Alec if I played favorites, and without skipping a beat he told me in no uncertain terms that I did play favorites and it was really obvious who my favorite was. In a state of shock and disappointment in myself, I asked Alec who he perceived my favorite to be. He told me that he knew he was my favorite! I smiled and agreed and sent him out the door to catch his school bus. And a few minutes later my youngest son came into the kitchen and to cover all my bases, I asked Aidan if I played favorites. And he told me I absolutely played favorites and it was so obvious. Nervously I asked Aidan who he thought was my favorite and he told me that he knew that *he* was my favorite, and ever-the-diplomat, he also told me that I needed to do better so Alec wouldn't figure it out. I smiled and thanked him for his thoughtful advice and agreed that he was my favorite and sent him out to catch his bus.

My kids and I laugh about this conversation, and I love that they each know that they are my favorite. Although, secretly, I think they both suspect that the dog is actually my favorite! But over the years, I have replayed that conversation in my head, because Fric and Frac (pseudo nicknames I use for my children when I am talking about both of

them!) were both convinced that they were my favorite. And I guess I could congratulate myself that my boys felt *more* valued, and *more* loved than his brother. Or maybe they felt the other was *less* seen, or *less* valued than himself.

Because we feel that way sometimes too, don't we? In our relationship with GOD, don't we sometimes feel like we are somehow *less than* compared to others? Speaking only for myself, there have been so many times that I have felt unseen, or unheard by GOD. Or maybe we feel like GOD has forgotten about us? Or that we don't matter as much to Him as someone else? And if we're honest, sometimes we feel like GOD favors others over us. And even if we know logically that GOD doesn't favor others over us, sometimes it's our intrusive thoughts and feelings that make us feel that GOD doesn't love us as much as he loves our siblings, spiritual and biological.

I can offer you scripture reference after scripture reference citing the boundless and infinite love of our God ("*...being rooted and firmly established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ...*" *Ephesians 3:17-18*). And how nothing can stop God from loving us ("*For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ our Lord*" *Romans 8:38-39*). But we can be certain that in all things, GOD loves us, and loves us without any hint of favoritism. James 3:17 says, "*But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.*"

GOD in His infinite wisdom is impartial. He is not biased or unfair. His love is not conditional, it is not based on our status, our wealth, our good works or how we look. His love for us is simple. His love is patient, kind, it does not envy or boast, it is not proud, it does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking or easily angered. His love keeps no record of our wrong doings. His love does not delight in evil, but rejoices in truth. His love protects, trusts, hopes and perseveres. His love never fails.

The bottom line is, GOD doesn't play favorites. And if we feel unseen, unheard or unloved by GOD, then we are in good company. Great heroes of the faith wrestled with these same feelings. David, Elijah, Job just to name a few. And our feelings, although maybe not always accurate, are certainly true experiences. Our feelings of guilt, shame, depression, grief, unanswered prayers (the list goes on and on) can certainly make us *feel* like GOD isn't paying as much attention to us as He is to our siblings in Christ. But distance and lack of love aren't the same thing.

Favoritism is a tricky thing. We all long to be seen and heard and valued. And that starts at a young age. I can joke that as an only child I was everyone's favorite. And I can laugh with Fric and Frac over who my favorite is. But one thing I strive to do is make each child that comes into Kingdom Kids on a Sunday morning or a Wednesday night feel that they are my favorite. My hope is that if they feel safe and welcomed and remembered and valued and **loved**, and not just by their families but by the church as well then they will make the connection that this is what being loved by GOD is like. As Jesus tells us from John 13:35; *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

So, if your child comes home and tells you that they are my favorite, please know that they are right! They are my favorite! And I tell each of them all the time that they are! And as for Fric and Frac, they are probably correct in their assumption that the dog is my favorite. She's always happy to see me, and she never asks me for money!

As the summer season approaches and the school year is quickly coming to an end, I pray that you and your family have a safe and fun summer! Summer always goes by so quickly, and I hope you will get some time to enjoy your family and make some memories!

**CHOCOLATE SUNDAY** is May 31! The kids have been working really hard to memorize Acts 1:8, and it is for the **giant** Hershey's bar! I have been busy purchasing the entire inventory of giant bars around the island! I love giving out chocolate and the kids work hard to earn their reward! I do tell them that they can't enjoy their treat until their grown-ups give them permission! Favoritism aside! They all know they can't eat their chocolate until you say so!

As always, I love being a part of your child's spiritual development and journey! I love learning from them and hearing what is happening in their worlds. Thank you for allowing me the honor and privilege of being a part of their lives!

~Miss Amy