

Today's message is titled: **Our Father, on Earth as in Heaven**

Romans 8:14-17

Something about me: parent by adoption
Crazy God story, will share that testimony later

But, that life experience has given me a unique perspective in understanding my own relationship with God and my adoption as His child

You see adoption throughout scripture... Moses for example

Context for the book of Romans

To believers in Rome, some Gentiles but also converted Jews.
They would have understood the history of God's people and the connection of their former slavery to their current position under the Roman government
Paul is explaining the gospel throughout the book to a group of people living in a very mixed culture. He's laying out what sets them apart, as faith in Jesus should.

And then he elevates the gospel to not just a spiritual belief change but a personal relationship change.

Once saved, they become children of God, brothers with Christ.

It's an identity shift. New Creation.

And this applies to us as believers in Jesus as well.

**WE ALL KNOW WE'RE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GOD – OR WE SHOULD KNOW –
BUT WE OFTEN FORGET THE HOW WE BECAME SONS OF DAUGHTERS OF GOD**

**ADOPTION – AND ROMANS TELLS US SOME IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT
ADOPTION IN THE KINGDOM**

If we are sons/daughters, then God is our Father.

I WANT TO SHOW YOU 5 THINGS GOD DOES AS A GOOD FATHER

1. GOD LEADS YOU

¹⁴ For those who are **led** by **the Spirit** of God are **the children of God**.

When we are led by circumstances, emotions, others, governments, finances, etc. we will be led astray – Those things are all limited, changing, inconsistent

Ex: Blindfold/Mute/Deaf game – doesn't get very far
We are limited/finite beings

God is the beginning and the end, He's been through your story, He knows the way to lead you because He can see past your circumstances.

2. GOD FREES YOU

¹⁵ 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**.

Remember, Paul is writing to a people currently under the Roman empire. What if freedom in Christ is not contingent on our circumstances? What if true freedom looks like not bearing the guilt and shame of our sins because that cost has already been paid?

3. GOD HEARS YOU

And **by him we cry, "Abba, Father."**

- You being bad fathers... your heavenly father... your father knows what you need, gives good things

Ex: being able to hear our kids cries from the other room even when it's loud. A good parent knows the voice of their child. How astounding is it that the God of the universe is so close that He hears when you cry out to Him? And He's so intimate that you can call Him dad?

4. GOD AFFIRMS YOU

¹⁶ The Spirit himself **testifies** (Greek study) **with our spirit that we are God's children.** = MAIN / POINT, WE HAVE A TENDENCY OF DISQUALIFYING OURSELVES... We go back to slave mentality

// 2 times in the NT you hear God's voice

1. This is my son
2. This is my son

If He reminded Jesus who He was, how much more do we need reminding?
God affirms your identity.

And let's be clear, in June 2026. He affirms your identity in Christ. Who you are now after you've been reborn.

Did you know you received a new identity when you accepted Jesus as savior?

Ex. Ashes from foster care – remnants of their "old life."

// WALKING THROUGH THE STORE LIKE A SOMEBODY EXAMPLE

Clearly we struggle as a people to know who we are. If God affirmed that Jesus was His son, it makes sense that Holy Spirit testifies within us that we are God's children, that He did forgive our sins, that we have eternity with Him.....

Jar of ashes // old life v. new life

5. GOD BLESSES YOU

¹⁷ Now if we are children, **then we are heirs**—heirs of God and **co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

And as if being His kid wasn't enough, we become co-heirs with Christ, meaning we share in everything the Father had for Him.

Martin Luther: "Through faith, you are a child of God. Christ has become your brother; therefore, all that is His belongs to you. His righteousness, His victory, and His life are yours."

What could be keeping us from fully living our lives as if the God of the universe is our dad?

2 things

He isn't your dad

You aren't connected to the Holy Spirit

Go back into the scriptures (led by the **Spirit**, The **Spirit** testifies)

Acts 19 "We didn't even know there was a Holy Spirit"

Spirit alive in you at salvation but you can be filled / baptized with the Holy Spirit