LESSON TWELVE

**A Child of the Heavenly Father**

**Galatians 4:5-7** - **5**so that He might redeem those who were under [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GALATIANS+4%3A5-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29124a)]the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons *and daughters*. **6**Because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying out, “Abba! [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GALATIANS+4%3A5-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29125b)]Father!” **7**Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GALATIANS+4%3A5-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29126c)]through God.

**Overview**

The sweetest relationship we have with God is that He is our Father, and we are His children. Children are very precious, and their relationship with their parents is one of sacrificial and unending love. God's love and protection of His children is also unending and of infinite proportions.

**Lesson Theme**

Somewhere in the salutation of nearly all of Paul's epistles he mentions *"God our Father."* No matter what may have been the main subject of the letter, Paul wanted the believers to know, first of all, that God was their Father. Living in the light of that close relationship with the Lord allows everything else to fall into place. We must strive to be the right kind of children in order to be the fulfilled Christians God wants us to be.

**Lesson Objectives**

At the conclusion of the lesson, each student should:

* Know how to become a child of God by being born again.
* Understand benefits of being a child of God.
* Commit themselves to be obedient and faithful to the Heavenly Father.

**Teaching Outline**

1. Becoming God's Child

* God wants everyone to be His child.
* God will never disinherit a family member.

1. Benefits of Being God's Child

* Family name
* Inheritance
* Home
* Protection

1. Being the Right Kind of Child "

* Obedience
* Faithfulness

**Psalm 127:3** - **3**Behold, children are a [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+127%3A3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16125a)]gift of the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

**Genesis 17:6 -** I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you.*"*

**3 John 4 -** *"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth"*

**John 3:3 -** Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone is born [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+3%3A3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26117a)]again he cannot see the kingdom of God.

**Romans 3:23 -** for all [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+3%3A23+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28003a)]have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

**Romans 5:12 -** Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all mankind, because all sinned

**Romans 6:23 -** For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Romans 5:8 -** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**Romans 10:9-10 -** [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+10%3A9-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28186a)]that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; **10**for with the heart *a person* believes, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+10%3A9-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28187b)]resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+10%3A9-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28187c)]resulting in salvation.

**Romans 13:1-2 -** Every [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28256a)]person is to be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28256b)]from God, and those which exist are established by God. **2**Therefore [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28257c)]whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

**John 3:16** - *16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that* ***whosoever*** *believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

**2 Corinthians 5:15 - 15**and He died for all, so that those who live would no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose on their behalf.

**Romans 10:13 - 13**for “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

**2 Peter 3:9 -** The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.

**John 1:12** But [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26050a)]as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26050b)]believe in His name

**Revelation 22:17 -** The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires, take the water of life without cost.

**1 Peter 1:18-19 - 18**knowing that you were not [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+PETER+1%3A18-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30380a)]redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, **19**but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.

**Ephesians 2:8-9 - 8**For by grace you have been saved through faith; and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+2%3A8-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29225a)]this *is* not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; **9**not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**Galatians 3:1-3** - You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed *as* crucified? **2**This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by works of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+3%3A1-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29092b)]the Law, or by hearing [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+3%3A1-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29092c)]with faith? **3**Are you so foolish? Having begun [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+3%3A1-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29093d)]by the Spirit, are you now [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+3%3A1-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29093e)]being perfected by the flesh?*"*

**John 10:27-29 - 27**My sheep listen to My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; **28**and I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. **29**[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=JOHN+10%3A27-29&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26503a)]My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father’s hand.

**1 John 1:8,10 - 8**If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.  **10**If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

**Hebrews 12:6 - 6**For whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He punishes every son whom He accepts.”

To *chasten* means "to correct by punishment or reproof." To *scourge* is "to inflict severe suffering, vengeance, or punishment." [Source: *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Third Edition* Copyright ©1992 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Electronic version.]

**Psalm 68:19 - 19**Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears our burden, The God *who* is our salvation.

**Acts 11:26 -** *the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."*

**Acts 4:13 - 13**Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and *began* to recognize them [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ACTS+4%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27028a)]as having been with Jesus.

**Ephesians 1:11-18 - 11**[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29205a)]In Him we also have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things in accordance with the plan of His will, **12**to the end that [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29206b)]we who were the first to hope in the [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29206c)]Christ would be to the praise of His glory. **13**In [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29207d)]Him, [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29207e)]you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29207f)]believed, you were sealed in [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29207g)]Him with the Holy Spirit of the promise, **14**who is a first installment of our inheritance, in regard to the redemption of *God’s own* possession, to the praise of His glory. **15**For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which *exists* among you and [[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29209h)]your love for all the [[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29209i)]saints, **16**do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; **17**that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the [[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29211j)]knowledge of Him. **18***I pray that* the eyes of your heart [[k](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29212k)]may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the [[l](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+1%3A11-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29212l)]saints,

**Romans 8:16-18 - 16**The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, **17**and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*. **18**For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be* compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

**1 Corinthians 2:9** - *"…*eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And *which* have not entered the human heart, All that God has prepared for those who love Him.

**1 Peter 1:4 - 4**to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable, undefiled, and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

**John 14:2-3 - 2**In My Father’s house are many [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=JOHN+14%3A2-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26663a)]rooms; if *that* were not *so*, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=JOHN+14%3A2-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26663b)]I would have told you, because I am going *there* to prepare a place for you. **3**And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, *there* you also will be.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 - 13**But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers *and sisters*, about those who [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+THESSALONIANS+4%3A13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29604a)]are asleep, so that you will not grieve as indeed the rest *of mankind do*, who have no hope. **14**For if we believe that Jesus died and rose *from the dead*, so also God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+THESSALONIANS+4%3A13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29605b)]through Jesus. **15**For we say this to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+THESSALONIANS+4%3A13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29606c)]and remain until the coming of the Lord will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16**For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+THESSALONIANS+4%3A13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29607d)]shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **17**Then we who are alive, who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. **18**Therefore, [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+THESSALONIANS+4%3A13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29609e)]comfort one another with these words.

**Exodus 14:13-14** - Do not fear! [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=exodus+14%3A13-14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-1903a)]Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will perform for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again, ever. **14**The Lord will fight for you, while you keep silent.

**Exodus 20:12** - Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be prolonged on the land which the Lord your God gives you.*"*

**Proverbs 22:15 - 15**Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of discipline will remove it far from him.

**Proverbs 22:6 - 6**Train up a child [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PROVERBS+22%3A6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-17022a)]in the way he should go, Even when he grows older he will not abandon it.

# Ephesians 6:1 -6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

**Colossians 3:20 - 20**Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=COLOSSIANS+3%3A20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29525a)]to the Lord.

**Jeremiah 7:23** reveals a particular theme that God continually brings before His children: "... Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you shall walk [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Jeremiah+7%3A23+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-19143b)]entirely in the way which I command you, so that it may go well for you.’*"* God wants us to obey Him for *our* own good.

**James 1:22 -** But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves*"*

**Ezra 7:10 -** For Ezra had [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezra+7%3A10+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-12184a)]firmly resolved to study the Law of the Lord and to practice *it*, and to teach *His* statutes and ordinances in Israel.

**James 4:17** So for one who knows *the* [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James+4%3A17&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30342a)]right thing to do and does not do it, for him it is sin.

**Luke 11:28,** But He said, “On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and follow it.”

**John 13:17 -** If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

**Romans 2:13 -** for *it is* not the hearers [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27964a)]of the Law *who* are [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27964b)]righteous before God, but the doers [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27964c)]of the Law *who* will be justified.

**1 John 2:3 -** By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

**Luke 6:46-49** “Now why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? **47**Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+6%3A46-49&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25187a)]acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: **48**he is like a man building a house, who [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+6%3A46-49&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25188b)]dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when there was a flood, the river burst against that house and *yet* it could not shake it, because it had been well built. **49**But the one who has heard and has not acted *accordingly* is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation; and the river burst against it and it immediately collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.”

**Luke 12:47-48 -** And that slave who knew his master’s will and did not get ready or act in accordance with his will, will receive many blows, **48**but the one who did not know *it*, and committed acts deserving of [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+12%3A47-48%3B+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25501a)]a beating, will receive *only* a few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.

James1:23-25 *"* But one who has looked intently at the perfect law, the *law* of freedom, and has continued *in it*, not having become a forgetful hearer but [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James1%3A23-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30279c)]an active doer, this person will be blessed in [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James1%3A23-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30279d)]what he does.*"* The blessed man is the one who hears the Word of God and *lives by it.*

**2 Timothy 2:13** - If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

**1 Corinthians 1:9 -** God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**1 Corinthians 10:13 -** No temptation has overtaken you except *something* common to mankind; and God is faithful, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+10%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28568a)]so He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

**Study Questions**

1.How do we become a child of God?

2. Who is included in this invitation for salvation?

3. What four benefits are we given as children of God?

4. What two responsibilities should we fill to be the right kind of child?

5. When did you become a Christian? Briefly describe your salvation testimony including the events that may have led to your salvation and what prompted you to choose to trust Christ as your Savior.

6. A benefit and responsibility of being a child of God is carrying the name "Christian!' Are there any ways that you have dishonored the Father's reputation? If so, how can you make it right?

7. How does eternal security tie in to God's promise of a home in Heaven? What verses support your answer?

8. Describe the difference between being a *hearer* of the Word and a *doer* of the Word. What can you do to be a *doer* of the truths you've learned today?

**Memory Verse**

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; **2**and walk in love, just as Christ also loved [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+5%3A1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29294a)]you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+5%3A1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29294b)]as a fragrant aroma.

**Ephesians 5:1-2**

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