

BELPRES CHURCH

Becoming God's Family

Steven Johnson

²³ 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.

¹ What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. ² The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. ³ So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. ⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶ Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Galatians 3:23-4:7 (NIV)

Discussion Questions: Please read Galatians 3:23-4:7

1. Read Genesis 15:1-6 in both the NIV and Message versions. What does this passage teach us about the promise God made with Abram?
2. Read Galatians 3:6-14. What does this teach us about the work of Christ?
3. Read Galatians 3:23-4:7. How does Paul's definition of family shift our typical definition of who is a part of our family?
4. God makes all who trust in him his brothers and sister. How are you living out that reality? What might God be calling you to shift?
5. Think of your own loved ones. Who can you invite to become a purposeful spiritual influence, like a brother or sister in their lives? Think of those in your circles of influence. How is God inviting you to become a more intentional spiritual brother or sister?