

A Child in God's Family

God begins a 'new family' after the sin of Adam. Matthew 1:1, I Cor. 15:45

I. Entering the Family – John 3:1-16

a. Spiritual Parents:

i. Word of God

ii. Spirit of God

When the Spirit of God applies the Word of God to the mind and heart of a sinner – The Word regenerates faith – Eph. 2:8-9

iii. Spiritual travail – Isa. 53:11, John 3:14-16

iv. The 'birthmarks' of God's children

1. Practicing righteousness – I John 2:29, 3:9

2. Loving God and others – I John 4:7, 5:1

3. Overcoming the world – I John 5:4

4. Overcoming the devil – I John 5:18

II. Enjoying the family

a. Family freedom – Romans 8:12-18

b. Family food – Jer. 15:16, Job 23:12

c. Family fortune – Romans 8:15-17

d. Family Fellowship – Heb. 10:25

e. Family Fashions – II Cor. 5:21

f. Family Future – I Peter 1:4

- III. Enlarging the Family – by being a witness
 - a. First walking in the Spirit
 - b. Secondly – desiring to see the lost regenerated
 - c. Must stay in fellowship with the Lord
 - d. Follow up with those who have made decisions.

- From Warren Wiersbe's book: *So that's what a Christian is!*

A Pilgrim Citizen

- I. Christians are called out – Romans 1:6
 - a. God’s approach – Luke 19:10
 - i. God chose us in Christ – Eph. 1:4
 - ii. He sends witnesses to share – Rom. 10:14
 - iii. Holy Spirit convicts – II Thes. 2:13-14
 - b. The new standing – John 17:6
 - c. Old citizenship is of the world – Eph 2:1-3, Phil 3:20
 - d. We are pilgrims – I Peter 1:1, 2:11
 - e. We live in a “tent” – II Cor. 5:1-3
- II. Christians are called together – Acts 2:44, Heb. 10:25
- III. Christians are called forth –
 - a. ** called out of the world so that Christ might send us back into the world in order that we might rescue others from the world...
 - b. If we are still “of the world” we cannot reach or help the world
 - c. Illustration of Abraham and Lot
- IV. Christians will one day be called up – John 14:1-6

From: ***So that’s what a Christian is!*** By Warren Wiersbe

Sheep in God's Flock

- I. Israel as God's Flock – Ps. 80:1, Ps 100:3, I Kings 22:17
- II. The Church as God's Flock: Luke 12:32, Matt 18:10-14
 - a. Sheep are “clean” animals – Lev. 11:1-8
 - b. Sheep know their shepherd – John 10:14
 - c. Sheep need a shepherd - Jer 10:23, I Peter 2:25
 - d. Sheep are useful animals – I Cor. 9:7
 - e. Sheep flock together
- III. Christ as the Shepherd
 - a. The Good Shepherd that died for His sheep – John 10:11, 15, 17-18, PS 22
 - b. The Great Shepherd that lives for His sheep – Heb. 13:20-21, PS 23
 - c. The Chief Shepherd that will return for His sheep – I Peter 5:1-4, PS 24
- IV. Responsibilities of the Sheep
 - a. Keep alert to the voice of the Shepherd – John 10:3-5
 - b. Stay close to the Shepherd
 - c. Cry out for the Shepherd when we stray – Mk. 16:7, Luke 24:34
 - d. Part of the Lord's flock
 - e. Must be useful to the Shepherd

- From: ***That's What a Christian Is!*** By Warren Wiersbe

A Soldier in God's Army

- I. The Soldier's Enlistment
 - a. First mention of church and conflict (Matt. 16:13)
 - b. "Drafted" at moment of salvation
 - c. God has all Authority (Matt. 28:18)
- II. The Soldier's Enablement
 - a. Not our strength – II Tim. 2:1
 - b. Keep prepared – I Tim. 4:7
 - c. Our Weapons – Word of God and Prayer (Acts 6:4, Eph. 6:17-18)
 - d. Christ used the Word – Matt. 4:1-11
 - e. Must endure hardness – II Tim. 2:3
 - f. Be strong – Eph. 6:10
- III. The Soldier's Enlightenment
 - a. Training manual – II Tim. 2:2
 - b. Word endures – Ps. 119:89, Heb. 1:1-2
- IV. The Soldier's Entanglement
 - a. Can't serve two masters – Matt. 6:24
 - b. Double minded man – James 1:8
 - c. We are to please God, not man – I Thes. 2:4
- V. The Soldier's Encouragement
 - a. Victory already secured – I Cor. 15:57
 - b. Jesus has won – Eph. 4:8, Col. 2:15

- Taken from "So that's what a Christian is" by Warren Wiersbe

A Stone in God's Building

I Peter 2:4-8 (note John 1:42)

- I. Jesus Christ – Chief Cornerstone
 - a. The Living Stone – I Peter 2:4
 - b. Chief Cornerstone – I Peter 2:6-7
 - c. Chosen, Elect Stone – I Peter 2:4, 6
 - d. Precious – I Peter 2:4,6
 - i. Precious Blood (1:19)
 - ii. Precious Faith (1:1)
 - iii. Precious Promises (II Peter 1:4)
 - iv. Trials – Precious for His sake (1:7)
 - e. Dependable Stone – (2:6)
- II. Jesus Christ the Builder
 - a. Building a place for us – John 14:6
 - b. Building the Church – Matt. 16:18
 - c. Building the Spiritual House – Eph. 2:22
- III. Believers as Builders – building up the body of Christ
 - a. Edify by showing love
 - b. Edify as Godly examples – Romans 14
 - c. Edify through speech – Eph. 4:29
 - d. Edify through prayer – Col. 4:12
 - e. Edify through the Word – Acts 20:32
 - f. Edify through Spiritual Gifts – I Cor. 14:12

We are a Priest at God's Altar

I Peter 2:5

- I. The Process: Becoming a Priest – Exodus 29
 - a. They were _____ and called by God (vs. 1-4)
 - * Ephesians 1:4, II Thes. 2:13-14
 - b. They were _____ vs. 4
 - * I Cor. 6:9-11
 - c. They were _____ (vs. 5-9)
 - * II Cor. 5:21, Eph. 1:6
 - d. They were _____ (vs. 7)
 - * I John 2:27
 - e. They were _____ (vs. 22-37)

- II. The Privileges: Ministering as a Priest
 - a. They were to _____ for God's dwelling place (Num. 3)
 - i. I Cor. 6:19-21
 - ii. Old Covenant – God's people made Him a sanctuary
 - iii. New Covenant – We are His sanctuary
 - b. Keep the fire _____ (Lev. 6:12-13)

- i. Luke 24:32
 - ii. Rev. 3:16
 - c. Washed at the _____ (Exodus 30:17-21)
 - i. John 13:1-11
 - ii. I John 1:5-2:2
 - d. Burning the _____ (Exodus 30:7-9)
 - i. Luke 1:5-17
 - ii. Psalm 141:1-3
 - e. Lighting the _____ (Exodus 30:7-8)
 - i. Prayer and the Word of God
 - f. _____ the bread (Exodus 25:23-30)
 - i. Nourishment comes from God
 - g. Entering through the _____ (Lev. 16)
 - i. The themes of Hebrews:
 - a. Let us go on (spiritual maturity)
 - b. Let us go in (fellowship)
 - c. Let us go out (identify with Christ)
 - h. Offered spiritual _____ (I Peter 2:5)
- III. The Perils: Defiling the Priesthood (Mal. 1:6-2:9)
 - a. Dishonored God
 - b. Work was now useless
 - c. Robbed God of His glory