

## EPHESIANS 1:3-14 Adopted by God

*Do you know anyone who was adopted? Maybe you were adopted!  
What does it mean to be part of a family?*

*What do you think it means to be part of God's family? How do you  
feel hearing that God adopted you as God's special child?*

*How do you think we should treat God's other children?*



**3-6** How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago **he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ.** (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son.

**7-10** Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. *Abundantly* free! He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth.

**11-12** **It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for.** Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

**13-14** It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This down payment from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.

*Always remember that you are God's beloved child and that others are too!*

# God's Adopted Children



His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

Based on Ephesians 1:3-14 (NIV)

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H Y A U W A W G D P E O I S L  
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FAMILY	BELONG	PROMISED	INHERITANCE	PURCHASED
KINDNESS	TRUST	GUARANTEE	ADOPT	BELIEVE
CHOSE	PRAISE	WISDOM	HEAVENLY	SECRET
PLAN	FREEDOM	PLEASURE	SPIRITUAL	BLESSED

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