

JESUS CAME TO GIVE US THE GIFT OF ADOPTION

*Christmas Gifts-Part 3
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“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.”

1 John 3:1 (NIV)

“Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.” John 1:12-13 (NIV)

I. A NEW KIND OF FAMILY

In God’s family we are all adopted. We are adopted into love. We are adopted into grace.

The first time we see Paul use this term is in his letter to the church in Rome.

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 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. And by Him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. 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.”

Romans 8:14-16 (NIV)

II. ADOPTION FOR ALL

“For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love, He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the one He loves.” Ephesians 1:4-6 (NIV)

“But when the right time came, the time God decided on, He sent His Son, born of a woman, born as a Jew, to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law so that he could adopt us as His very own sons. And because we are His sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, so now we can rightly speak of God as our dear Father. Now we are no longer slaves but God’s own sons. And since we are His sons, everything He has belongs to us, for that is the way God planned.” Galatians 4:4-7 (TLB)

“Even if my father and mother abandoned me, the Lord would take me in.” Psalm 27:10 (NET)

That is the heart of your Heavenly Father giving you a

Place to belong

and

Peace to experience as part of His family.

THIS CHRISTMAS

Perhaps this is the Christmas when you acknowledge God’s adoption into His family as one of His kids.