

Sonship in the Kingdom of God

Word of God: Romans 8:12-17, 28-30; Galatians 3:26-4:7; Luke 15:11-32; Hebrews 2:10-18; John 1:10-13; 1 John 3; 1 Cor. 4:14-17; 2 Cor. 6:11-13

Kingdom Foundation: God reveals Himself to be One God in Three Persons – Father, Son, Holy Spirit. God, as Father & Son, must build His kingdom on the basis of who He is, a Family of Three in One. Therefore, God builds His kingdom relationally in Family, natural and spiritual. A Family, made up of "sons" (refers to men and women) is the only way God builds His kingdom. There is no plan "B". The gospel is a story of a Father & Son who by the Spirit created a Family made up of sons. When those sons committed anarchy against their Father, God sent His son to pay the penalty for their sin by shedding His blood and dying on the cross. The sons, through Jesus Christ, now have direct and immediate access to their Father apart from works or performance. When one is born again into a son of God, they also have direct and immediate entrance into the family of God. God is establishing His kingdom on earth through spiritual sons. Living as healthy sons of God, in the context of loving spiritual families, is foundational for advancing Christ's kingdom on earth. The degree to which we open and connect our hearts to God as Father and to His Family is the degree to which we become like Christ and advance His kingdom. How well we connect at the heart covenantally with our spiritual family will determine our level of wholeness, and our eternal impact in the kingdom. Our spiritual family is made up of fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, sons and daughters. Relating well, at a heart level, to our spiritual family is foundational to bringing God glory and advancing Christ's kingdom on earth.

Sonship:

1. Are you a son of God? Has the Holy Spirit told your personal spirit that you are a son of God? Do you have a revelation of sonship deep in your heart?
2. Do you relate to God as your Father through Jesus Christ?
3. How has your natural father and mother affected your relationship with your heavenly Father and family?
4. Have you humbled, opened, and connected your heart to spiritual fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters in a legitimate APEST led "tribe" i.e. trans-local spiritual family. Are you a healthy and active spiritual son within a local church family?
5. To what degree do you evidence healthy and loving "sonship" within your spiritual family?
6. Do you live from your heart, being led by the Holy Spirit within the context of spiritual family. Do you keep your heart open and connected to God and your trans-local spiritual family i.e. "Tribe"?
7. Do you live with the conscious awareness that the way you relate from the heart to your natural and spiritual family is an important barometer for how you relate to God?
8. Do you know and practice kingdom etiquette as it pertains to your relationships with others? Does your patterns of communication reveal that you are a healthy and connected son in the family?