

ONLY THE BROKEN

Week 7 | Only The Broken | September 6, 2015

Opening Up:

- Are you more matter of fact or more nuanced in your conversations? (You may also ask: Does anyone in this group sometimes hurt others feelings and you don't know why? Discuss. Is anyone here easily hurt by others? Discuss.)
- Do you ever feel uncomfortable when people get emotional?
- What did affection look like in your home growing up?
- What does God the Father's affection feel like?

Reference: Galatians 3:26-4:7

Discuss:

1. J.I. Packer said, "[Adoption] is the highest privilege that the gospel offers: higher even than justification..." What do you think? How is knowing God as a loving father different from knowing God as righteous judge?
2. Jesus came at just the right time. How does knowing that God is in control and the he has a plan effect how you relate to God as a father.
3. Jesus is qualified to redeem you from slavery and to adopt you as a child. Jesus was fully God, fully man, and fully righteous. How does knowing these qualities about Jesus give you confidence in your redemption and adoption?
4. When Paul said "we are all sons," he was not being demeaning to women. Paul was saying, we are all heirs. Women were not treated as equals in the culture Paul is writing to. Paul taught that race, socioeconomic, and gender were not rationales for inequality; but that the gospel teaches we are all sons (or heirs) through faith in Jesus. The judaizers were teaching that Jews were "real sons" and Gentiles were not. How should knowing that we are all "real children" in God's family effect the life of a church? What might make someone feel like they are not a "real child" in a church?
5. How are you sometimes tempted to live like a slave when you know you are really a child of God?
6. In your experience, how does the Spirit affirm your relationship with God?
7. Have you ever been emotionally moved by your adoption as a child of God?
8. Do you think most people in the church view the church as a family, an event, or a building? Why?
9. Have you found this to be true: Through Jesus we **know** we have been redeemed and adopted; through the Spirit we **experience** it? Explain.
10. Pray