**Healthy Church Series**

**Topic: Creations, Children, Sons, Servants and Friends of God (Part 2)**

**Text: *John 1:12-13, Eph 1:4-5, Gal 4:4-8***

**Introduction:**

Last week, we started the part I of a new topic and we considered our first level of relationship with God. We learned that we are all God’s creation but we lost some key privileges at the fall-of-man event in the garden of Eden, Gen 3 and Ps 82:5-7. Today, we will dig deep into the next level of our relationship with God, i.e., children. I should mention here that the word children and sons are used interchangeably within the scriptures but careful observation informs that “children” is more general while “sons” refers to matured children. But how did we become God’s children and who are God’s children. Those are the questions we will try to answer in our discussion today.

**Children of God (How?) – Gal 4:4-8:**

According to the scriptures, only those who are led by the Spirit of God are God’s children, Rom 8:14-17, “For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” That is to tell us that before the physical revelation of Christ, the spirit of God goes out to adopt men as God pleases. Unfortunately, men cannot come to God by themselves except through Jesus Christ, John 14:6. Therefore, it is Christ that guarantees that all men that comes to God through him will become God’s children. We are officially adopted into God’s family through Christ even after we lost our divine nature in the garden of Eden Gal 4:4-5, i.e., ***Christ qualifies all men or any man for adoption***. This is how we are brought back into God’s glorious family. Still, being children is our first level of relationship in God’s family, we still have to grow into maturity until we become co-heirs with Christ. This is the ultimate plan of God for us Eph 1:4-5. Now, we will look into attributes of God’s children

**Attributes of God’s children:**

* A child of God is able or willing to receive spiritual things – *I Cor. 2:12-14*

Once we become a child of God, we have a measure of the holy spirit, so we have certain access to the mind of God. At the same time, we are willing to seek His will and open to yield to the directions of the holy spirit. Although our spiritual senses might still be clouded by our human weakness sometimes, we can always return back to the Him. Similar to how a child with limited perception and understanding might lost their ways, but once they hear the voice of their parents, they always run to the parent’s arms.

* A child of God seeks purity – Mat 5:48, 1 Pet 1:15

Once a child start spending time with his parents, he/she starts to take on the nature and behavior of his/her parents. This is also true of newly adopted God’s children, 2Cor 5:17. Such a person begins to resist the inherent human nature to seek self and instead start bearing spiritual fruits Gal 5:22.

* A child of God is meek - *James 4:6*

Meekness is a key attribute of a children. In fact, the extent that a man is meek may be a good indicator of the state of his relationship with God. The meeker a man, the more he submits to the will of God, the more grace he receives to be meek. It is not surprising that the bible says the wisdom from heaven is first pure and then meek …, James 3:17.

* A child of God bears the authority of God *– Rom 8:17, 2 Tim 2:10-12*

An African adage says, we cannot see a prince and not see the glory of the King on him. A child of God also analogously reflects the glory of God. He enjoys privileges of peace, health, prosperity, favor that a natural man cannot comprehend. He’s also able to endure temporary pain for the glory of God. Something a natural still cannot comprehend. The more mature he grows, the more authority he has, the more privilege he is able to enjoy, and the more pain he is able to endure for the success of the kingdom of his father.

**Conclusion:**

We have studied the second level of man’s relationship with God. We have also seen that being a child of God is the beginning of our relationship in God’s family. Still we need to continue to grow until we come to full maturity and become co-heirs with Christ.