



The Father Heart Of God | Rejoicing In Family | Ephesians 4:1-16

1. Share something of the joys and the challenges of being a family.
2. Why do you think the Father's heart rejoices when there is a new birth into His family? Why is it so significant and important to Him, and what are the implications for us as a Church family? Luke 15:6-7, 8-10 & 32
3. 'You can be a perfectly good Christian without bothering with Church'. How would Paul answer this in the light of Eph. 4:1f
4. What are the characteristics that Paul mentions that the Father's family are to embrace and put on? Compare with Colossians 3:12-15
How do they help to build and maintain healthy relationships and unity? Do you consciously give attention to them in your life and relationships?
5. What doctrinal truth is Paul stating and emphasising in Eph.4:4 – 6?
Discuss what each aspect means and their importance in relation to what Paul says in v14.
6. Discuss the comment: 'Some people think of the Church as a pyramid with the pastor at the top. Others think of the Church as a bus being driven by the pastor who takes passive passengers where they should go. God wants us to see the Church as a Body or Family where every part does it share'.
7. Eph. 4:7 'But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.' A definition of apportioned is - to divide or share according to a plan. From what Paul says, what is God's plan in the apportioning of Jesus gifts to the Church family?
8. Read 1Peter 4:10 Do you recognise Jesus' grace gifts being used within CBC? Have you recognised what gift/gifts Jesus has given you to share and serve?
9. What according to Paul's teaching are the distinctive hall-marks of maturity in the Church family? Is this maturity related to the age of family members or not?
10. Whose responsibility is it to ensure that the members of the Church family are as stated in v13' become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ'?
11. Pray for our CBC family to deepen our expression of 'living a life worthy of the calling we have received'.