

Connect Group Discussion Guide

SERMON DATE	SERMON SERIES	SERMON TITLE
9/12/2021	Five Vital Choices	Live like a Child of God
Message on YouTube	Click on the link below and then click on the link that pops up below it to get to the message. Or, copy and paste the link below https://youtu.be/Ylp8_vznSeg	

MESSAGE ABSTRACT:

We wrap up our series of the Five Vital Choices. So far we looked at choosing to live like: 1) an explorer, always believing that God has a purpose and promise for our lives; 2) an investor, looking for ways we can make the most of every opportunity by investing our time, talent, and treasure; 3) a builder, seeking ways to leave others better than we found them; and, 4) a temple, pursuing being more Christlike and Spirit filled.

The final vital choice to make as we consider how we live (Ephesians 5:15) is to live like a CHILD OF GOD. It's either living like a SON (daughter) or a SLAVE. We can live free to the Spirit or enslaved to shame.

Because of the great love God has for us, we are His children (1 John 3:1). That means as children we need to choose to remember:

1. **DAD TAKES PLEASURE IN US.** He rejoices over us in singing (Zephaniah 3:17) and delights when we delight.
2. **DAD IS ALWAYS PRESENT.** There is no where we can go that He is not with us. And He will never leave, nor forsake His children.
3. **DAD PROVIDES ALL WE NEED.** He loves to love. That's His nature and it's why He lavishly loves us too. He gives us everything we need to obey and please Him.

We are God's children. But we can forget. We can choose to live in slavery to our internal measures of shame that will never be enough. Or we can believe (and embrace) that God is enough and His love is enough for us--that we are whole. We are free from the shame of needing to perform.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. In what way did God speak to you in the message this past Sunday?
2. Read 1 John 3:1 together. Why do you suppose the Apostle John wrote that calling us children of God is evidence of how great His love is?
3. Think about the song God may be singing just for you, what do you suppose might be in His lyrics?
4. Describe a time when you've felt alone on the road of life. How does knowing God was there with you during that time perhaps change your thinking about that time in your life? How might it equip you for the days ahead?
5. What step might God be calling you to take this week? Pray over one another.