

## The Family of God

### Ephesians 1:1-14

*A direct result of the gospel in the life of a genuine Christ follower is ongoing spiritual transformation which means being more and more \_\_\_\_\_ from the ways of the world.*

**Discussion 1.** As you look back at who you were when you first started following Jesus, can you identify ways you have grown, i.e., ways you are now a little more “set apart” from the ways of the world? Why is it a worthwhile thing to recognize this growth?

*As Christ followers, long before we were even born, God had already decided to \_\_\_\_\_ into His family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. We can always be thankful for this, irrespective of any other circumstances in our lives.*

**Discussion 2.** As Christ followers, we can rejoice in our adoption into God’s family. How or why might it matter to you that this decision was made by God long before you were born? What difference does that make to you?

*All of Christianity rests on the death and resurrection of Jesus. Through these events, God \_\_\_\_\_ us, \_\_\_\_\_ us, grants us wisdom and insight, and \_\_\_\_\_ a broken world back unto Himself. All of this depends upon Jesus’ death and resurrection.*

**Discussion 3.** Why is it important that we be able to articulate the significance of the cross and the empty tomb? If you were asked to talk about one thing in your life today that you attribute solely to Jesus, what would it be?

*As adopted children of God, we are promised an inheritance; God’s “deposit” toward that inheritance is the \_\_\_\_\_ making Himself known through us.*

**Discussion 4.** If the Holy Spirit is God’s “deposit” toward our ultimate inheritance as His child, how do we recognize the work of the Holy Spirit in us? What kind of evidence does the Spirit leave to confirm His presence?