

# Gamma 11

## Study 2

Ephesians 1:4-8

### Section A (Exegetical Questions)

- 1. What additional value does adoption bring to us on top of being regenerated and justified by Jesus Christ?**
- 2. What is the motive did God have of adoption of us?**
- 3. Are only the men adopted in Christ? If the term sons also apply to women by does Paul use such discriminatory language why does he not use the term children instead?**
- 4. What are some of the privileges of being adopted as sons of God in the first 14 verses of this chapter as well as the following (Heb 12:5-8; Rom 8:15-17; Romans 8 :23; Rev 21:7-8)**

### Section B

#### Reflection Questions

- 1. Has your relationship with your own human family become better or more difficult as a result of your becoming a Christian? If your relationship with your earthly family has become more difficult, how have you found Mark 10:29-30 to be true in your life as a Christian?**
- 2. What was your father like in your family, was he difficult or kind? Sometimes people who have had unloving or cruel earthly fathers have found that their background creates difficulty in their thinking about God and relating to him as a heavenly Father. How can Hebrews 12:10, Matthew 7:11, and Luke 11:13, which contrast sinful earthly fathers with our perfect Father in heaven, be of help in that situation? Might 1 Peter 1:18 be helpful in this situation as well? What can a person who has had a cruel and**

**unloving earthly father do to gain a better and better appreciation of who God is and what kind of Father he is?**

- 3. Do you sense the Holy Spirit within you bearing witness with your spirit that you are a child of God (Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:6)? Can you describe what that sense is like?**
  
- 4. Do you sense any discrimination against Christians of other races or other social or economic positions? Can you understand how the doctrine of adoption should obliterate such distinctions in the church (see Gal. 3:26-28)?**

## **Section C**

### **Case history**

**Justin Tan is a young man in his 20's who had just started out working in KL and was looking for a church to worship in. Most of his friends attended churches in the Subang Jaya area which were mainly populated by young people as these churches provided vibrant worship styles and opportunity for dating due to the larger pool of available young ladies. Not to mention similar interests as well.**

**He came across a few churches which had a wider range of age groups , children , youth, young adults ,families and older folk as well.**

- 1. What are the pros and cons for him joining either a exclusively younger church or an intergenerational church? Which will foster the concept of adoption and experience of the family of God more ?**
  
- 2. How can the older people in church begin to adapt and make changes to the church program to make it a family which is more relevant and open to young people**
  
- 3. The largest demographic that the church is loosing all over the world is the young adult age from 20-the 30's. It is an urgent problem and how can FBC address this problem as a family?**
  
- 4. Young people like to be heard and have their views taken into consideration how can this happen if on the one hand they want to be heard and yet on the other hand they are too busy for leadership because of their careers?**