

# God Deals With Us As Children

Taught by Mark Clements

“We believe that God deals with believers as His children, that He chastises the disobedient, and that He rewards the obedient.” (Matt. 16:27; Matt. 25:14-23; John 1:12; Heb. 12:5-11; 2 John 8; Rev. 22:12)

John 1:11-13 “He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”

These verses teach us that something supernatural happens when we place our faith in Christ: We are “born again” – or born of the Holy Spirit – and placed in the family of God as His \_\_\_\_\_ . (1 John 3:1)

You see, by faith in Christ, God has \_\_\_\_\_ us into His family, calling us His children. (Galatians 4:4-7)

We have been adopted into God’s family, and there is \_\_\_\_\_ that will ever change that relationship!

We have been \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit; He indwells us forever.

\_\_\_\_\_ will ever separate us from the love of God. NOTHING will ever change the fact that I am a SON of God. That relationship is forever, just like my children will \_\_\_\_\_ be my children, no matter what.

Our approach to God is impacted \_\_\_\_\_ when we realize we are no longer foreigners or strangers to Him, but are now His children. There are at least three implications of this new relationship we now have with God.

## 1. GOD \_\_\_\_\_ WITH US AS HIS CHILDREN.

God our Father \_\_\_\_\_ us! Everything we need for life we receive from Him

That means He is \_\_\_\_\_ to caring for us, to providing our needs, to showing compassion and mercy on us when we make mistakes. (Matthew 7:7-11)

You see, not only does God have the \_\_\_\_\_ to be the best Father, He has the \_\_\_\_\_ to take care of us like NO ONE ELSE on earth can.

## 2. GOD \_\_\_\_\_ US AS HIS CHILDREN.

You see, the Bible teaches that anyone who hasn’t placed faith in Christ is still under the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. Paul said in Romans 5 that we were “enemies of God” who were reconciled to Him by the blood of Christ. That means that everyone is either an \_\_\_\_\_ of God or a \_\_\_\_\_ of God, and that determines how God deals with us:

If you are a child of God, then God disciplines you out of \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(Hebrews 12:5-11)

LISTEN: God \_\_\_\_\_ you and deals with you based on His LOVE, not His WRATH.

He isn't AGAINST you, He is \_\_\_\_\_ you, just like I am not against my children, but want to see them joyfully succeed in life.

Our choices have \_\_\_\_\_, and sometimes God allows us to endure the consequences of our bad decisions so He can use it to strengthen us and teach us.

Don't you see this is who God is for us? He has suffered personal sacrifice in Christ to \_\_\_\_\_ us in our willful disobedience.

Our Father doesn't cause us pain because He hates us; He causes us pain because He \_\_\_\_\_ us and can't bear to watch us \_\_\_\_\_ from Him.

### 3. GOD \_\_\_\_\_ US AS HIS CHILDREN.

We all need incentives – we need a \_\_\_\_\_ for living and working. In His word, God promises that he will reward the \_\_\_\_\_ of His children. (*Matthew 16:24-27*)

As a child of God, you have the option of living your life in your \_\_\_\_\_, according to your own power and desires, or you can live your life in the Spirit who indwells you, according to God's power and desires.

We begin with the foundation, which is \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ, and build upon that foundation. (*1 Corinthians 3:11-15*)

As God's children, we are encouraged to build upon our salvation a house that will \_\_\_\_\_ the test of time.

When Christ returns, our life's work will be \_\_\_\_\_ by fire and whatever we've done in the Spirit by the power of God for His glory will last, and we will be rewarded for it.

As a child of God I want to live a life that \_\_\_\_\_ my Heavenly Father the most. After all, He is the reason I am alive, both physically and spiritually.

I want to encourage you too: Live a life that makes your Father \_\_\_\_\_. (*2 John 1:8*)

## LIFE APPLICATION

*God hath sent forth the Spirit of His son into our hearts, crying Abba, Father. (Galatians 4:6-7)*

When I was growing up, I remember my parents didn't have a lot of money. Life was simple, family was important, and Christian values were of the utmost importance. The greatest gift from a human standpoint was a pattern that has been passed down to my children. The "gift" is that special moment when your mind is processing the gap between reality and disbelief.

Let me give you an example. My Dad was a master at surprises. When I would least expect it, he would place a candy bar under my pillow or write an encouraging note and tuck it within the pages of my school books. He always went to work in the mornings before we got up, but occasionally he would leave a quarter under the tube of toothpaste. In my day, twenty-five cents could be used at school for a soda and piece of candy. It wasn't the money, and it wasn't the candy. It wasn't even the element of surprise. It was the fact that I had a father who loved me, had a relationship with me, protected me, encouraged me, and yes, even disciplined me. And it was all combined together in a man who was doing the best he knew how as an earthly father. Did I enjoy the discipline part at the time? NO! But after I was trained by it, and after I later saw the value in it, I now realize my dad was doing it out of love.

---

Think of a friend, co-worker, neighbor, fellow church member, grocery store clerk, bank teller, or whoever God lays on your heart, and surprise them with an encouraging note or text. Maybe include a \$5.00 gift card for coffee.