

# Who I Am: Chosen to be God's Child

The Bible says followers of Jesus are chosen by God to be his **adopted** children.

Most parents don't get to choose their child. They don't know what their child will be like until it is born!

But someone who adopts a child does get to choose their child. They could say no, but they decide to say yes, and welcome that child into their family.



And before the world was made, God decided to make us his own children through Jesus Christ. This was what God wanted, and it pleased him to do it.

(Ephesians chapter 1 verse 5)

What is it like to be God's child?

- ♥ He **loves** you, no matter what you do.
- ♥ He is **proud** when he sees himself in you.
- ♥ You can come and **talk** to him whenever you like.
- ♥ He is always there to **help** you.
- ♥ He wants to **teach** you how to live well.
- ♥ He **shares** everything he has with you.



What do you want to say to Father God?

More to read...

 John chapter 1 verses 9-13

 Galatians chapter 3 verses 26-29 and chapter 4 verses 6-7

# Who I Am: Forgiven and Free

The Bible says that all of us do things that God says are wrong. This is called **sin**. The Bible says that we are '**slaves to sin**'. This means we cannot stop doing wrong things, even when we really want to do the right things. Sin makes us keep walking away from God.

When we decide to follow Jesus, God forgives us for all the things we have done wrong. He sets us free from sin. This means we can keep walking back to God even when we do wrong things. And God helps us to get better at doing the right things.



In Christ we are made free by his blood sacrifice. We have forgiveness of sins because of God's rich grace. God gave us that grace fully and freely.

(Ephesians chapter 1 verse 7, ERV)

Being **forgiven** means...

- ♥ You don't have to worry about things you did in the past.
- ♥ You are more than your mistakes.
- ♥ God is not angry with you.
- ♥ You have a new start every day.

Being **free** means...

- ♥ You can look forward to a better future.
- ♥ You can do whatever God asks you to do.
- ♥ God wants to help you.
- ♥ You can make good choices every day.



What do you want to remember about this?

More to read...

 Romans chapter 7 verses 14-25

 Romans chapter 8 verses 1-6 and 14-16

# Who I Am: Being Changed by God

When we decide to follow Jesus, God's **Holy Spirit** comes to live within us. He helps us to see things in a new way. It is like waking up into a new kind of life. We need to learn how to live this new life. And the Holy Spirit also changes us



inside. Slowly, we start to grow into people who think and act like Jesus. This is what God wants.



When anyone is in Christ, it is a whole new world. The old things are gone; suddenly, everything is new!

(2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 17, ERV)

Things that the **Holy Spirit** does:

- ♥ Helps you love God and believe in Jesus.
- ♥ Speaks to you through the Bible, your life, other people and your mind.
- ♥ Encourages and corrects you.
- ♥ Keeps working in you until his work is finished.

Things that **I** need to do:

- ♥ Get to know God by reading the Bible and praying.
- ♥ Listen to God (check what you think he is saying with the Bible and wise friends).
- ♥ Try to do what God wants.
- ♥ Keep going and don't give up.



How is the Holy Spirit changing you?

More to read...

 Colossians chapter 3 verses 12-17

 Philippians chapter 1 verses 3-11

# Who I Am: A Temple for the Holy Spirit

In the Old Testament, God's people built a special building called a **temple** to worship God. They made it very beautiful and looked after it well. It was called **holy** because it was God's home on earth. Now, God has sent his Holy Spirit to live within us. We are his new home! That means our bodies are special and holy like the temple. So we should worship God with our bodies and look after them well.



Your body is a temple for the Holy Spirit. You don't own yourselves. So honour God with your body.

(1 Corinthians chapter 6 verse 19-20, ERV)

How can we honour God with our bodies?

- ♥ **Look after** our bodies well.
- ♥ **Find out** what God wants us to do with our bodies.
- ♥ Try to think, say and do things that will make God **happy**.
- ♥ Try not to think, say and do things that God says are **wrong**.
- ♥ Use our bodies to **worship** God (to show him that we love him).
- ♥ Do everything as if we are doing it **for God**.



How can you find out what God wants you to do with your body? What do you already know about this?

More to read...

 Psalms chapter 100 verses 1-5

 Romans chapter 12 verses 1-2

 Ephesians chapter 4 verse 22-32

# Who I Am: A Citizen of Heaven

A **citizen** of a country is someone who agrees to follow that country's laws and has special rights there. If they go somewhere else and get in trouble, they can ask that



country for help. The Bible says that we are citizens of heaven. We follow God's laws and we have special rights as his people. Even though we live on earth, our home is really with God in his **kingdom**. We live on earth for now, but we will live with God forever.

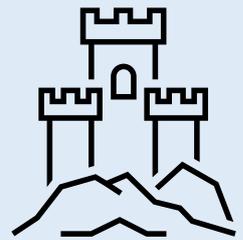


The government that rules us is in heaven. We are waiting for our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from there.

(Philippians chapter 3 verse 20, ERV)

What does it mean to be a citizen of heaven?

- ♥ God is our **King**.
- ♥ We do what **God** wants instead of what people want.
- ♥ We can **talk** to God any time we like.
- ♥ We can ask God for **help** when we get in trouble.
- ♥ God wants us to **tell** other people about his kingdom.
- ♥ We are **safe** with God even when life is hard on earth.
- ♥ We can **look forward** to living with God forever.



What do you think it will be like to live with God in his kingdom?

More to read...

 Ephesians chapter 2 verses 4-7

 Colossians chapter 3 verses 1-4

# Who I Am: God's Witness on Earth

The Bible says that we are God's **witnesses** on earth. We know him. We have seen him work in our lives. God wants everyone else to know him too. So he wants us to tell and show other people what he is like. He wants us to help other people get to know him. It can be a bit scary to talk to people about God. Some people might make fun of us for following Jesus. But if we ask God, he will help us be brave.



The Holy Spirit will come on you and give you power. You will be my witnesses. You will tell people everywhere about me.

(Acts chapter 1 verse 8, ERV)

How can we help other people to get to know God?

- ♥ **Tell** people that we believe in Jesus.
- ♥ **Talk** about what God has done for us.
- ♥ **Show** people what God is like by doing what he wants.
- ♥ **Do good things** for people so that they will see Jesus in us.
- ♥ **Answer** people when they have questions about God.
- ♥ **Invite** people to church and meet-ups with other Christians.
- ♥ **Pray** for God to work in the lives of the people we know.



What are some easy things you can do to tell and show people what God is like??

More to read...

 Matthew chapter 5 verses 14-16

 1 Peter chapter 3 verses 13-16