**A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS: THE WEALTH AND WALK OF A BELIEVER**

*“Blessings From the Father-He Has Adopted Us”*

**THE FATHER HAS ADOPTED US (Eph. 1:5)**

* **THE PRINCIPLE OF ADOPTION**
* **The definition of adoption**

American Heritage Dictionary:

*“To take into one’s family through legal means and raise as* ***one’s******own*** *child.”*

Vine’s Expository Dictionary:

*“to place as a* ***son*** *one who does not* ***naturally*** *belong.”*

Nelson’s Dictionary:

*“Taking in of a stranger and making him a son, with all the* ***rights*** *and* ***privileges*** *of sonship.”*

* **The demands of adoption**
* The **choice** to adopt must be made. (Eph. 1:5)

*Ephesians 1:5 Having* ***predestinated*** *us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*

* The **legal** **requirements** must be met. (Gal. 4:5)

*Galatians 4:5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.*

* The **price** must be **paid**. (I Pet. 1:18-19)

*1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;*

*19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

* There must be a **witness** to the adoption. (Rm. 8:16)

*Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

* **THE PRIVILEGES OF ADOPTION**
* I have a new **father**. (Rm. 8:15)

*Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

* I have a new **title**. (Gal. 4:1-7)
* I can now serve God **freely**, rather than by constraint.
* I am now motivated by my **relationship** with Him, rather than my **fear** of Him.
* I have a new **nature**. (II Pet. 1:3-4; Rm. 8:28-29)

*2 Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

*4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

*Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;*

People say Brielle looks like us…People don’t know she is not our biological child unless we tell them.

(that’s a supernatural thing that God does) – she is tall and thin like Kelly.

My 2 yr old picture (Hers)

* I will have a new **body**. (Rm. 8:23)

*Romans 8:23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.*

* **THE PROCESS OF ADOPTION**

Ephesians 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children **by Jesus Christ** to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

* **THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTION**

*Ephesians 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ* ***to himself****, according to the* ***good pleasure of his will****,*

* His **pleasure**
* His **praise**

*6 To the* ***praise of the glory of his grace****, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.*