

## **Luke 10:21-24**

### *The Cool Kids*

**Main idea: God reveals Himself even to the last and the least.**

Early Service:

Excuse me, oh, sorry, I'm just trying to get to the front. I was the last person to come into the sanctuary this morning, but I really want to be the first person to receive the Lord's Supper. I was last, and I'm trying to make myself first, but all you guys are in my way, so I have to trample over you. I'm sorry I have to trample over you, but it just has to be this way. Because I really want to be first, even though I was last, and this is the way the world does it. In order for me to win, you all have to lose, so that I can be first, and so that you will all be last!

There, now I'm first, and you're all last, I win, you lose, so there!

At least that's how we often treat life, isn't it? We want to get ahead, so we do what we think we have to do in order to get ahead, without thinking about the needs of others. And I don't just mean financially or at work; we apply this same principle at home. We often put our needs ahead of those of our own family. At least I do.

You see, I'm not as godly as my wife, because I usually make it my goal to snatch the last piece of pizza before anyone else can get it! But wives and moms make it their goal to assure that their husbands and kids have enough. They put themselves last; I put myself first.

But that's kind of weird, isn't it? I mean, in order for someone to be last, someone else needs to be first. And in order for someone to be first, someone else needs to be last.

It's like this. I need all the kids to help me for a minute. Come over here, into the center aisle, and form a line back here. This game is called "Make Yourself First." The way this works is that last person in line runs to the front of the line in order to become the first. And then the next last person will do the same so that they'll become the first. And you'll just keep on doing that. Ok? When you become last, then you'll run ahead and become first. Good! Keep going! Keep doing that! Ok, good. Stop. But the Bible says the last shall be first and the first shall be last. So maybe we've got this backwards. Maybe we should be trying to be last. So very carefully, I want the first person in line to walk backwards and become last. And then the next first person will walk backwards and become last. Go ahead. Good. Keep going. The last shall be first and the first shall be last! Ok, good. Stop. Good job. Go ahead and find your seats.

Is that what God wants us to do? Race each other to be last, so that we can be first? Try to beat everyone else to being last?

**Grace Baptist Church**

965 E. Union Street, Nokomis, IL 62075

[graceisgood.org](http://graceisgood.org)

I mean, in order for someone to be last, someone else needs to be first. And in order for someone to be first, someone else needs to be last. But if we're all trying to be first, none of us can be first, and if we're all trying to be last, none of us can be last. And so for much of our lives, we're either trying to exalt ourselves, or humble ourselves, but in both of these, we're usually trying to be the winner, which means that everyone else will be the losers.

This happens at home, it happens at work, it even happens in our own minds, as we often convince ourselves that we need what we consider to be the very best thing, so that we can feel good about ourselves because we're better than others, because secretly we feel inadequate.

And sometimes by doing this we get what we think we want, but usually we end up frustrated that our little plan didn't go our way, because it doesn't leave us satisfied, and we feel like we're right back where we started: being last, when we want to be first.

But maybe being last isn't such a bad place to be. And I don't mean that we strive to be last, because when we strive to be last, we're trying to beat others at being last, and we're actually trying to make ourselves first, but rather, I mean actually being last, not making ourselves last, but being humbled by God, isn't so bad.

You see, Jesus humbled Himself. He made Himself the very last by being crucified for our sin, and then because of that, He was made first again through the resurrection, being the firstborn of all the dead, and in the process, made everyone who is last in Him, first in Him.

So let's pray.

*Lord Jesus, thank You for Your sacrifice for us. And thank You for giving us the sure hope of our present and future salvation by rising from the grave, signifying that we too, will rise, no longer being last because of our sin, but being first because of Your righteousness. In Your Name, thank You, Amen.*

Luke chapter 10, verses 23 and 24

Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it."

Jesus was telling His disciples that they were extremely blessed because they were able to see Him and hear Him, the long-awaited Messiah. And in the same way, we are extremely blessed when we see Jesus. And we are extremely blessed when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Because, you see, Christ's death and resurrection help us to see Jesus more fully.

It's like this:



I want you to stare at the black dot in this picture, and just keep staring at it while I talk for a minute. What is this a picture of? It's a flower, but the colors are all messed up, right? The colors in this picture were inverted so that each color is from the exact opposite side of the color wheel from its actual color. But in just a second we're going to change the picture and you should see the actual colors, but when that happens just keep staring at the block dot until I tell you you, okay? It's going to switch in 3, 2, 1, 0.



Do you see it in color? Now look around at the picture. It's actually in black and white! Pretty cool, right? This is an optical illusion because of the way our eyes work, but I want to use it as an illustration of how people in the Old Testament saw Jesus.

When the kings and prophets of the Old Testament looked forward to the coming Messiah, their picture of Jesus sometimes wasn't so clear.



They longed to see Jesus in all His glory, but since Jesus had not yet become one of us to dwell among us, they had to be content with incomplete glimpses of His form and beauty. But even they could get a clearer picture of Jesus if they stared at Him long enough. If they studied His word. If they rested in His love. The colors would begin to emerge, and they would begin to get a fuller picture how good and gracious Jesus is.



You see, when you read the Old Testament, or any of the Bible for that matter, you can focus on one of two things: all the rules, and reasons we don't measure up to God's standard, or how in the Savior, we fully measure up because of God's grace.

That's why we have so many passages in the Old Testament that praise God for His unending love.

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. (Psalms 86:15)

Yes, the Lord loves his people. All his holy people are in his hand. They sit at his feet and learn his teachings! (Deuteronomy 33:3, ERV)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

Even though many people typically think of the Old Testament God as being a God of judgment, and the New Testament God being a God of grace, that distinction doesn't nearly paint God accurately. God didn't change, because God doesn't change. The people in the Old Testament who knew God best knew even then that God is gracious, abounding in steadfast love.

Yet none of them saw Jesus fully. They saw glimpses, sometimes even amazingly clear glimpses, but they were still lacking key pictures of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, because those things had not yet happened. But now, being on this side of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, we have a much clearer picture of Jesus.



It's like we get to see Jesus in all of His color. All of His goodness. The kings, the prophets, Old Testament heroes, they longed to see Jesus the way we see Jesus. So Jesus told His disciples:

“Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.” (Luke 10:23-24)

Now, these words were spoken by Jesus to His disciples some time before His death and resurrection, probably around a year before, and yet you can hear how their ultimate fulfillment speaks of His death and resurrection. I mean, it's great to see Jesus perform miracles, and to hear Jesus speak truth, but the greatest things that revealed Jesus in all of His glory were His death and resurrection. Taken together, that's the pivotal event of all history. All of the Old Testament pointed forward to Jesus's death and resurrection, and all of the New Testament writings point back to His death and resurrection as what gives us salvation, hope, and life. And

**Grace Baptist Church**

965 E. Union Street, Nokomis, IL 62075

[graceisgood.org](http://graceisgood.org)

time itself it counted from the birth of Christ, which only has relevance to our lives because of the death and resurrection of Christ.

But the kings and prophets of the Old Testament didn't get to see those things take place. God revealed to Moses, David, Solomon, Isaiah and other what Jesus would ultimately do for them, but they saw it from afar, not seeing every detail, but just enough that they would hope in the coming Messiah. The greatest figures of the Old Testament, people we might consider the first, the best, longed to see Jesus, but they didn't get to see Jesus in their lifetimes.

But the disciples got to see Jesus in all of His glory. So Jesus told them, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see!"

And we also get to see Jesus in all of His glory. Through the Bible, we get to see how all of God's story unfolded and is unfolding. We get to see not only Adam, and the Fall of mankind, but Jesus, and the restoration of mankind. We get to see not only death entering the world through one man, Adam, but life through one man, Jesus.

You see, there's a great reversal that took place and will take place because of the resurrection. In going to the cross, Jesus made Himself last, but because He rose from the grave, He took His rightful place as first once again. And because He did it, we do it. The dead rise. The weak become strong. The lost are found. The first become last, and the last become first. Not because we make ourselves first, but because God makes us first in Christ, who is first.

To us today, this all might seem like an optical illusion.



Everything in the world screams out to us, "Make yourself first! Look out for number one! Be a winner, not a loser!" But God's Spirit whispers quietly, "You wanna see Jesus high and lifted up? Then look at Him while He died for you on the cross."



Because that's what reveals Jesus in all of His beauty. All of His glory. And we don't just see a faint image of His beauty, but we see Jesus, high and lifted up. Because that's where Jesus was high and lifted up on a cross for you, for your sin, and for my sin.

And that's what we do when we take the Lord's Supper together. We look to Jesus, who made Himself last for us. So I invite you now to take the Lord's Supper with us if you look to Jesus as your salvation. The bread is in a cup stacked under the cup of juice, take both. I invite you take the Lord's Supper with us if your desire is to be found not among the great people of this world, but to be found in Jesus.

You see, the Lord's Supper isn't just a reminder of what Jesus did for us a long time ago, how He died for us, but about identifying ourselves primarily with that death. So we, too, are to die to ourselves that we might live in Christ. The world's advice is so messed up. It's completely backwards. Being exalted by God doesn't happen when we exalt ourselves, when we try to make ourselves first, when we lift ourselves up, but when we rest in the One who was lifted up on the cross.

So Jesus said to His disciples, "This is my body, which is given for you. Take, and eat."

And in the same way also, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And through that series of events, Christ's power was revealed, because through it Jesus paid the price for all our sin. He became last.

And afterward, the grave could not hold Him, and He rose! He made Himself last of all, and became first of all. And when Jesus rose, we rose with Him. When we trust in Jesus, His death was our death, and His life becomes our life. That's what baptism symbolizes, being made new in Christ. We died to our old self, that we might live a new life in Christ.

**Grace Baptist Church**

965 E. Union Street, Nokomis, IL 62075

[graceisgood.org](http://graceisgood.org)

This Easter, blessed are your eyes! Blessed are your ears! So that you might see Jesus more fully, and worship Him.

*So Jesus, we thank You for the life we receive through Your death. We thank You for taking our place as the last and the least, and in so doing forgiving us through Your body broken and blood shed. And help us daily to die to ourselves, and live for You, and in You, just as you now live in us by faith. In Your name we pray, Amen.*

For our time of invitation this morning, I want you to remain sitting. As the band comes and begins to play, take this moment to fill out the response card in the bulletin or in the Bible app, and submit that into the offering plate as we pass it in just a moment. Then stand, and worship.

Late Service:

I don't know how it was at your school, but I remember back when I went to school, and especially junior high, how everyone wanted to be one of the cool kids. They got to sit at the cool table, and they always seemed to laugh the most, and even their food looked better, you know what I'm saying? We all wanted to be one of the cool kids so that we could sit at the cool table and not feel out of place there. We wanted to be one of the cool kids because then, we thought, life would all to fall into place.

But so many don't get to sit at the cool table. They sit alone. Despised and rejected, they feel like they are the last and the least.

Well, fortunately, most of us who felt that way found other outcasts that we could belong to. We formed our own clubs, our own groups, so that we weren't alone. We had our own table, where we would laugh, and be accepted, and which others secretly longed to be a part of, thinking that we were the cool table.

Because they sat alone, despised and rejected, feeling like the last and the least.

Well, we might attribute all that to just growing up. As we mature, we realize that the cool table wasn't really all that cool, and that the people we looked up to as the cool kids really weren't all that different from everyone else. In fact, a lot of the time, they were just all-out jerks. But it wasn't because they were any better or worse than anyone else, because we all have our insecurities, and we all desire to be loved and feel like we belong.

And it seems like for most of our lives, we often feel like we're on the outside looking in. It seems like everyone else has their act together, everyone else is successful, everyone else is loved, but we're struggling to keep our head above water. Do you ever feel that way?

Maybe that's why you come to church. To be accepted. Because, you think, even if I'm rejected by the world, God will accept me. So you come, just as you are.

But did you know that Jesus had a cool table? It's true. Jesus had a group of His disciples that He let in on the deeper truths of His teachings. He ate with them, and laughed with them, and shared the Lord's supper with them: bread and wine, symbolizing His body and blood.

But Jesus's inner circle wasn't filled with the kinds of people we expected to find sitting at the cool table in junior high. They weren't great in the eyes of the world. They were fishermen. Tax collectors. Unknowns. They were the despised and rejected of society. Yet God chose them to be the cool kids.

So from the very beginning of Jesus's ministry, we find that the last would be first.

Do you ever feel like the last? The least? Struggling? Alone?

I think we all have those feelings not so that we can shrug them off as common insecurities, but so that each one of us will cry out to God, who loves the last and the least.

Luke chapter 10, beginning in verse 21.

In that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." (Luke 10:21-24)

*Father, thank You for revealing Your Son Jesus to us. Thank You for letting us see Him in all His glory, crucified, and risen, so that by faith in Him, we can have eternal life. Help us to be like little children, believing the gospel with childlike faith. In Jesus's name, Amen.*

Salvation is an amazing concept. You either get it, or you don't. It either makes sense to you, or it doesn't. For some people, it just makes sense that we need saving. They look at their lives, and see that they're not perfect, and they know intuitively that they need God to save them.

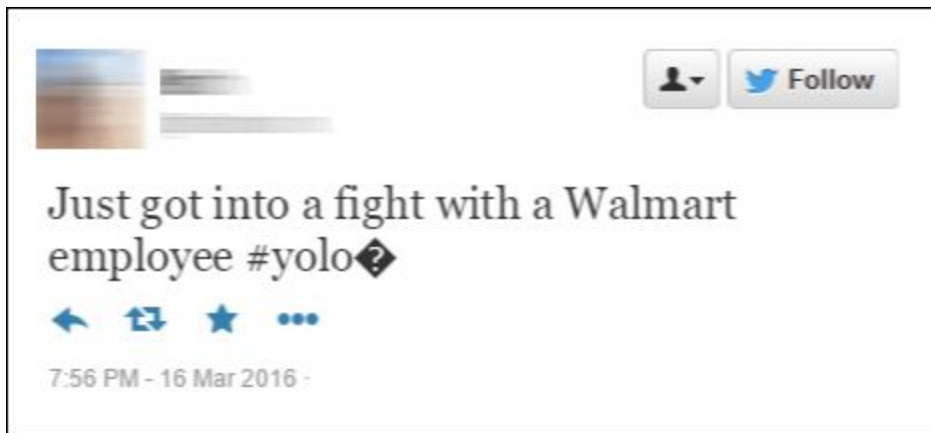
But I don't think that comes intuitively for most of us. For most of us, before we can be saved, we need to realize that we need saving. Before we can be found, we need to see we're lost. Because most Americans, even though they say they're Christians, don't realize just how lost they are.

It's really easy to consume ourselves with the here and now, without giving much thought to the there and hereafter. In other words, this life seems so real, so true, and heaven just seems so far away, if it even exists at all. So we tend to focus on this life, the here and now, because, as we sometimes say, it's the only life we've got.

In fact, it's become a hashtag.

# #YOLO

#YOLO stands for "you only live once" and in the name of #yolo, people do all kinds of stupid things. Here are a few of them.



"Just got into a fight with a Walmart employee. #yolo"



“Spent \$5k on alcohol & food since spraannngggg breaaakkkkkkk #yolo”

Oh, and here’s the best one.



“Lol I’m tweeting while I’m driving #yolo”

So, hey, if you only live once, you should do whatever you want, whenever you want, because this is the only life we’ve got!

But there’s a problem with that line of thinking. This ain’t the only life we’ve got.

The Bible is clear. Over and over and over again, the Bible talks about the life to come.

Daniel 12:2 says, “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”

Matthew 25:46 says that some “will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Matthew 7:13-14, "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

There is a heaven, and there is a hell. This ain't the only life we've got. And Jesus is clear that only the righteous, those who enter the narrow gate, those in His in-crowd receive eternal life. So rather than focusing on what we can get in the here and now, the question that ought to consume us even in this life is how do we become part of Jesus's inner circle? How do we become one of the cool kids?

Well, just prior to the passage I read this morning, we read that Jesus sent out seventy-two of His disciples into towns and villages to be His witnesses. And when He sent them out, He gave them authority to heal and cast out demons, to tread on serpents and scorpions, and power over Satan, and Jesus assured them that nothing would hurt them. So when they came back from that, it says this in verse 17:

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" (Luke 10:17)

In other words, they were rejoicing in the here and now. They were rejoicing in what they could do. So Jesus responded to them like this in verse 20.

Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." (Luke 10:20)

What do you rejoice in? Are your joys mostly about the here and now, or about the there and hereafter? There's nothing wrong with rejoicing in the here and now, as long as you recognize that every good gift is from God and for God. Every blessing we receive from God, which is everything, ought to cause us to rejoice not so much in the temporary blessing of that thing, but in God Himself, because it reminds us that God has even greater blessings in store for us because of Jesus. In Jesus, we have immeasurable, eternal blessings in heaven.

Well, after Jesus reminded His disciples to rejoice less in the here and more in the hereafter, it says in verse 21 that in that same hour, Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit.

Man, I would love to see Jesus rejoice. Because Jesus did everything perfectly. He never sinned. So His rejoicing was perfect rejoicing. He must have had this huge smile on His face. He must have been humming His favorite song. Maybe He even wept, full of joy, because our greatest joys sometimes do that to us. And I want you to notice something. This greatest kind of rejoicing doesn't come from earthly pleasures. It doesn't come satisfying our urges or even from getting things that we want. It says that Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit.

One of the greatest lessons we can learn in life is that it doesn't matter what life throws our way. If we have God, we have everything. When you trust in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit comes into your life, and you may continue to live the rest of your life in alone, or in poverty, or with no earthly blessings, but you can rejoice with the greatest kind of joy, because God has blessed you in Jesus Christ your Savior.

Now look at the content of Jesus's rejoicing. Jesus prayed this in verses 21 and 22.

"I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." (Luke 10:21-22)

How can we become part of Jesus's cool table? How can we inherit the blessings? In other words, how can we make ourselves first? How can we assure that we're good enough, that we've done enough, so that God will let us into heaven?

Well, I think this passage is saying at least this much: as long as we think we can be good enough, wise enough, understanding enough to earn salvation for ourselves, we don't yet know the Father or the Son. Because having our names written in heaven isn't something we earn. It's something Jesus earned for us. It's something that must be revealed to us. We must become like little children.

It's amazing how trusting little children are. I'm often an incredibly sarcastic person, and my kids know that about me, but they didn't always. They had to learn that about me. Because often when my kids come to me, crying with a small scratch, I'll say, "Uh, oh, I think we need to go to the hospital." And I'll pick them up and start walking towards the front door. And they laugh when I do that now, but when they were younger, they thought I was serious, and they'd cry even more because they thought they would need surgery.

Well, God never tricks us like that, He always tells us the truth, but He does love it when we simply believe Him with childlike faith. When God tells us that He loves us, and we believe Him, He loves to reveal more of Himself to us, and that changes us. When God tells us that Jesus died for us, to forgive us of our sin, and we believe Him, He loves to transform us from the inside out, so that we're no longer insecure in ourselves, feeling alone, but forever resting in the love of our Father.

This is God's gracious will. His will is to show grace. It's completely backwards from the system of this world, which rewards hard work and demands that we make something of ourselves. Instead, God rewards those who simply come to Him in faith and say, "I need You, Father. I am Your child."

**Grace Baptist Church**

965 E. Union Street, Nokomis, IL 62075

[graceisgood.org](http://graceisgood.org)

And even that seems to be a result of God already revealing Himself to us. Because we won't call God Father unless His Spirit has already been working on us. That's what it says in Galatians 4:6.

Because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" (Galatians 4:6)

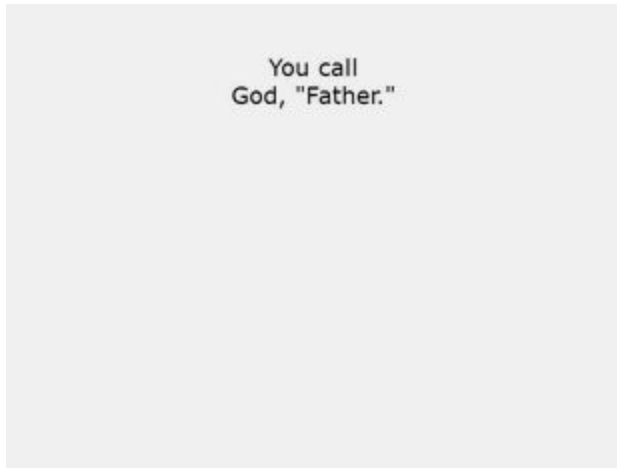
And, hey, it says this in John 1:12.

To all who did receive him (Jesus), who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12)

And then it says this in Titus 3:5.

He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5)

So, putting this all together...



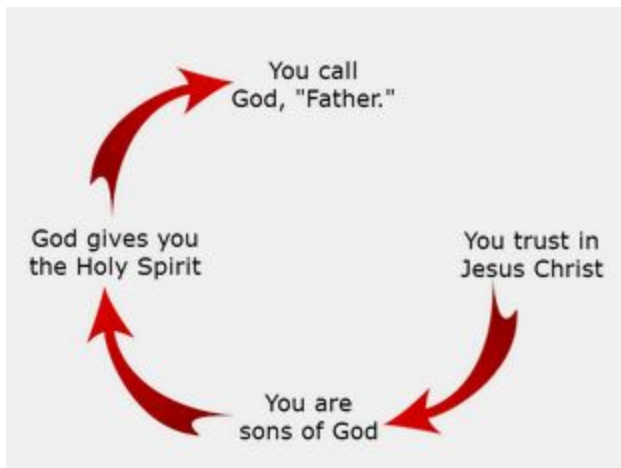
You call God Father when God gives you the Holy Spirit.



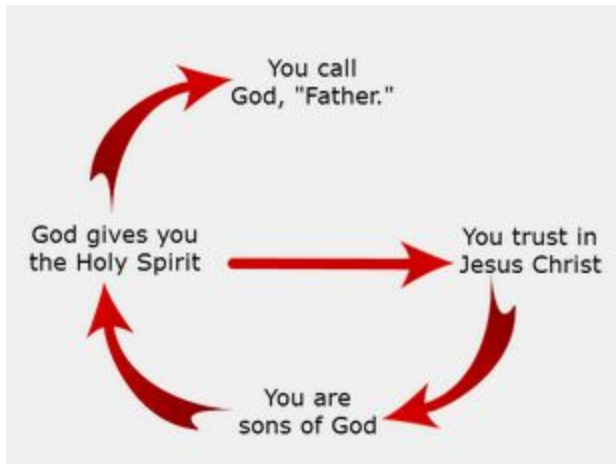
And God gives you the Holy Spirit because you are sons.



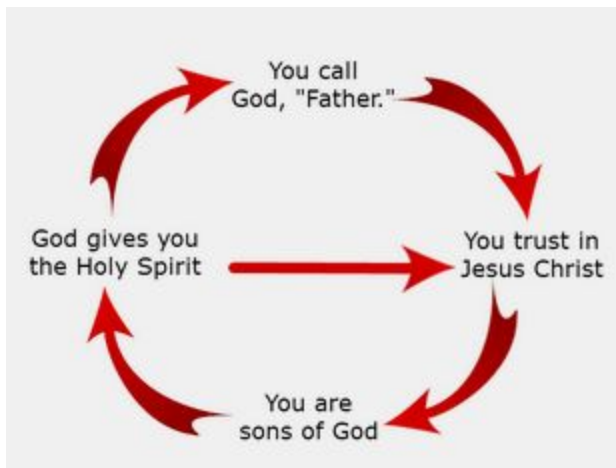
And you can only be sons of God when you trust in Jesus Christ.



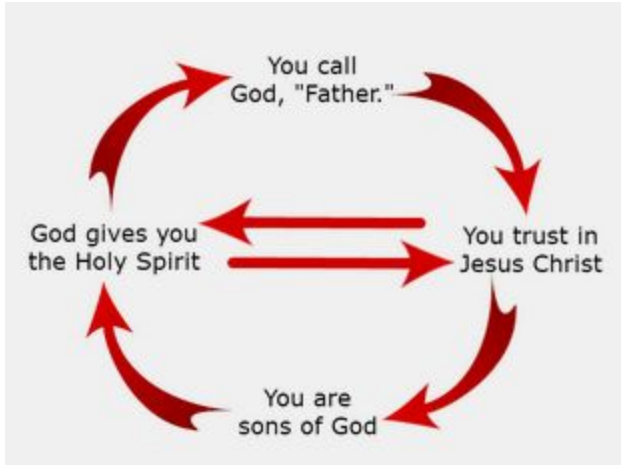
But that can only happen if God reveals Himself to you through the Holy Spirit...



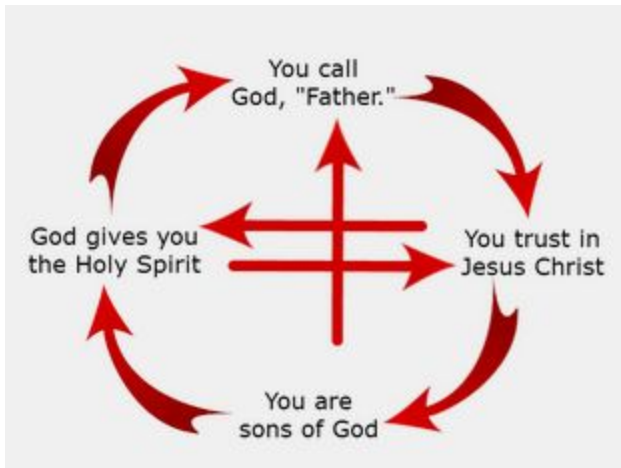
Which is what caused you to call God Father.



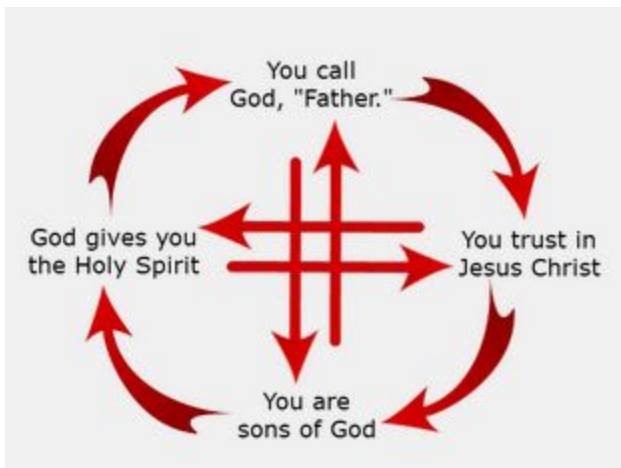
And yet, we're also told in Scripture that we receive the Holy Spirit and are sealed in Him when we trust in Jesus (Ephesians 1:13).



Oh, and it looks like you call God Father only because you're His sons.



Which only makes sense if He's already your Father!



So we end up with this impossible series of events, this impossible manual to follow, and if we treat it like a manual, we don't know where to start, because it seems like everything depends on the thing before it. So if you ask the Catholics, they'll might say the process starts here, with being sons of God, because you're baptized as an infant. But if you ask the Pentecostals, they might say the process starts here, with receiving the Holy Spirit. And as Baptists, we typically say the process starts here, with receiving Christ. And certainly we each have the responsibility to trust in Christ. But what I'm saying is that we shouldn't turn God into a manual!

And this kind of frustrates us, because we like manuals to follow. Do this, and get this. That makes sense to us. But turning God into a manual is why God gave the Jews the law to follow. And because we break the law, Jesus died. And because Jesus died, we have life. You see, salvation doesn't come through a manual, but through a person.

Jesus reveals Himself to us. The disciples saw Him with their eyes, and heard Him with their ears. In fact, they saw and heard Jesus first. They got to be a part of Jesus's inner circle. And during Jesus's ministry, not everyone understood. Only the ones who were invited into His inner circle. They stuck around. They didn't just want the miracles. They had the beginnings of childlike faith. And that was necessary at that time, before His crucifixion, that only a few were in Jesus's inner circle. But the thing is, now that Jesus as risen, God lets us in on His little secret. We also get to know the Son!

And not only that, but everyone's invited! Jesus told us to tell everyone! Matthew 28:19.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

Revelation 3:20.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. (Revelation 3:20)

1 Timothy 2:3-4

This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:3-4)

The invitation is open to all people! And God desires it for all people! We can all be the cool kids!

The question of the week last in the bulletin was, "Have you ever been part of the 'in' crowd?" Out of all the responses to that question I received, only one person said yes. Here's what they wrote.

Yes, when I played basketball in 6th grade I was "popular" for a year. It felt great till I realized they weren't my real friends and being a part of the "in" crowd made me someone I wasn't.

You know, that makes perfect sense in this broken world. Because being "popular" and "cool" to sinners will transform you into even more of a sinner. You might be able to boast about being the best and greatest person in a crowd, but really all you're saying is that you're the best and greatest sinner around. And the more you find your worth in what people think of you, the more you'll be transformed into their image, the image of sin.

But when God draws you into His inner circle, the circle into which we're all invited, God begins to transform you into the image of His Son, characterized by righteousness. Faithfulness. Kindness. Goodness. God transforms us into someone that we weren't, but not in a bad way. In a very good way. He strips away all the things that harmed us. All the things that kept us from seeing His goodness. And He replaces all the junk, all that sin, with joy in Jesus.

You see, being a Christian isn't just about being accepted for who we are. I mean, that's part of it, because God does love the last and the least. But in Christ, we're not just accepted, but we become acceptable. We're no longer the last and the least, because in Christ, we've been made the first. And God does that for all of us, so that we're not competing with each other to be first, but together we become the Bride of Christ, the Church, and because we're united with Christ, who became last of all for us, by taking on our sin, and dying on the cross, we join with Him in being first. The cool kids.

So right now, if you want to come into God's inner circle, God invites you to His table. God excludes no one. God invites you to trust in Jesus Christ. If that's what you want, that's called faith, and God is drawing you to Himself, so that you will be with Him forever, not alone, but belonging and rejoicing with the family of God.

*Father, thank You for Jesus, crucified for our sin, and raised to life. I pray that as we celebrate the resurrection, that we would learn to die to self and live in Christ. Thank You for inviting us to know You and find life, true life, in You. In Jesus's name, Amen.*