

God's Family

“Children of God, and such we are”

- *“See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are” (1 John 3:1).*
- Jesus Himself notes that our spiritual fellowship always takes precedence over earthly family ties (Matthew 12:46-50).
- Jesus is not ashamed to call us brothers (Hebrews 2:11).

“Where there is no guidance, the people
fall, but in abundance of counselors there is
victory”

Proverbs 11:14

More Than One Set Of Parents

- When we become Christians, we have access to a vast network of role models and counselors.
- We are welcomed into a larger family, with many times the benefits (Mark 10:29).
- Consider Timothy a case-in-point.
- Also, Christians are supposed to be held in “family-like” regard (1 Timothy 5:1-2).

Nobody Is An Only Child

- Be careful to avoid bringing “hang-ups” with you:
 - We may bring our “only child syndrome” and expect to be catered to;
 - We come with a preconceived idea about being one of many siblings, as if we are valued less by God because we are just a face in the crowd;
 - We may have felt neglected as a child or teenager, and now we are unwilling to open ourselves up to more hurt feelings and disappointment;
 - *“He who isolates himself seeks his own desire, he quarrels against all sound wisdom” (Proverbs 18:1)*

Romans 12:6

“Since we have gifts that differ according to
the grace given to us...”

You Are Now On A Talented Team

- **The loud, obnoxious aunt**
- **The one with the quiet inner strength**
- **The excitable cousin**
- **The in-law whose value becomes inexpressible**
- **The organizer**

“Since you have in obedience to the truth
purified your souls for a sincere love of the
brethren, fervently love one another from the

1 Peter 1:22 heart”