

FORMED FOR GOD'S FAMILY

"His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ." — Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

My second purpose in life is _____.

1 John 4:21 (GW) — "He has given us this command: The person who loves God must also love other believers."

A. IT STARTS WITH _____.

1 John 3:1a (NIV) — "See how great the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

B. FELLOWSHIP IS _____ GOD'S FAMILY.

1 Timothy 3:14-15 (NCV) — "I'm writing . . . so you'll know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church."

Loving God's family: Three aspects of fellowship . . .

A. _____ TO BELONG.

Ephesians 2:19 (LB) — "You are members of God's very own family . . . and you belong in God's household with every other Christian."

1. Can choose friends, but can't choose _____.

Romans 12:5 (NIV) — "In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

2. Church functions like a _____!

Ephesians 5:23b (NIV) — "Christ is the head of the church, **His body**, of which he is the Savior."

B. _____ TO SHARE.

Acts 2:44 (LB) — "All the believers met together constantly and shared everything with each other."

1. Must share our _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:8-9 (NIV) — "We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the Gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us."

2. Must share our _____.

1 Peter 4:9 (NCV) — "Open your homes to each other."

3. Must share our _____.

Galatians 6:2 (NLT) — "Share each other's troubles and problems."

Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) — "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another."

C. LOVING BELIEVERS LIKE _____.

Acts 2:42a (CEV) — "... they were like family to each other."

1. Real families are _____ and _____.

Romans 12:10 (GW) — "Be devoted to each other like a loving family."

2. Real families are _____ and _____.

John 13:35 (LB) — "Your strong love for each other will prove to the world that you are My disciples."

1 John 3:16 (NLT) — "We know what real love is because Christ gave up His life for us. And so we also ought to give up our lives for our Christian brothers and sisters."

3. Real families are _____ and _____.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) — "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."