

FACULTY OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
COURSE CODE: [FCM 112]
COURSE TITLE: THE POWER OF SONSHIP

TEXT

Romans 8:14

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Ephesians 1:5

having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Romans 8:29-30

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

INTRODUCTION

It is important to understand that in Christ, we aren't only called to membership, partnership, stewardship, and fellowship alone, we are also called to sonship. God's ultimate plan is that we be conformed to the image of his Son Jesus Christ. In this course, we shall explore both the benefits of sonship and the responsibility of Sonship in other for us to fulfill our destiny in God.

A. WHAT IS SONSHIP?

The word comes from a Hebrew Word "BEN" it means in Hebrew " BUILDER OF THE FAMILY NAME "

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called

Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Based upon the above scripture, a son is an individual who is matured enough to carry the Government of the Kingdom of God upon his shoulders.

B. BENEFITS OF SONSHIP.

1. SONS INHERIT

Galatians 4:1-7

Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

2. THE INHERITANCE OF SONS ARE PERMANENT.

Ezekiel 46:16-17 NIV

"This is what the Sovereign Lord says: If the prince makes a gift from his inheritance to one of his sons, it will also belong to his descendants; it is to be their property by inheritance. If, however, he makes a gift from his inheritance to one of his servants, the servant may keep it until the year of freedom; then it will revert to the prince. His inheritance belongs to his sons only; it is theirs."

3. THE GLORY OF SONS IS SUPERIOR TO THE GLORY OF MERE SERVANTS.

Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. For every house is built by

someone, but He who built all things is God. And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

4. SONS ENJOY THE MANDATE OF AUDIENCE UPON THE EARTH.

Luke 9:35

And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!"

5. SONS ENJOY THE PRIVILEGE OF MANIFESTATION ON EARTH.

Romans 8:19-21

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

C. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SONSHIP IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THE HOUSE OF GOD.

1. SONS ARE FOREVER. THEY NEVER LEAVE.

John 8:35

And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.

2. SONS HONOUR FOREVER.

Malachi 1:6-11

"A son honors his father,
And a servant his master.
If then I am the Father,
Where is My honor?
And if I am a Master,
Where is My reverence?
Says the LORD of hosts

To you priests who despise My name.
Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?'
"You offer defiled food on My altar,
But say,
'In what way have we defiled You?'
By saying,
The table of the LORD is contemptible.'
And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice,
Is it not evil?
And when you offer the lame and sick,
Is it not evil?
Offer it then to your governor!
Would he be pleased with you?
Would he accept you favorably?"
Says the LORD of hosts.
"But now entreat God's favor,
That He may be gracious to us.
While this is being done by your hands,
Will He accept you favorably?"
Says the LORD of hosts.
"Who is there even among you who would shut the doors,
So that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain?
I have no pleasure in you,"
Says the LORD of hosts,
"Nor will I accept an offering from your hands.
For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down,
My name shall be great among the Gentiles;
In every place incense shall be offered to My name,
And a pure offering;
For My name shall be great among the nations,"
Says the LORD of hosts.

3. A SON CAN BE CORRECTED OR CHASTISED.

Hebrews 12:5-13

And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:
"My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD,
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;
For whom the LORD loves He chastens,
And scourges every son whom He receives."

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

4. A SON SHOULDERS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE HOUSE AND IS A BUILDER OF THE FAMILY NAME.

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
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Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
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5. A SON OBEYS

Hebrews 5:8-9

Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

6. A SON IS DEPENDENT ON THE FATHER AND IMITATES THE FATHER

John 5:19-23

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the



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Father which hath sent him.

7. SONS CAN BE LED.

Romans 8:14

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

