

La Familia de Dios

4-Jesus is Our Brother

Open by asking: "How is everyone doing?"

Introduction: "We're taking a look at what life is like in la Familia de Dios. Families are all about relationships, so each week we're taking a look at different passages from the Bible that talk about how we relate to God and to each other. Our own families shape how we relate to God--good, bad, or ugly--and it's easy to assume that a relationship with God is just like our relationships with others in our lives. God calls us family. The purpose of our discussion is to find out what God himself says about His family and how it can be similar and different from what we experience in our earthly families."

Last week we focused on the inheritance we receive as a part of God's family. This inheritance is an eternity in God's presence, free from any tears, pain, or the effects of sin. We get to share and enjoy our inheritance with our brothers and sisters in Christ FOREVER!!

- Who here has an older brother or sister? Who here is an older sibling or THE oldest sibling?
- In an ideal world what would you expect from an older brother? As a younger sibling, what might you gain from having an older sibling? (Protect, look up to him, gives advice, goes to the father on our behalf, good example, been through life ahead of you, went through hard things first and the younger sibling could learn from watching, etc.)

Depending on our earthly relationships with our siblings, if given the choice, some of us might trade in our siblings and pick new ones. Some of us might not. **If Jesus called God His Father, and we call God our Father, how then are we related to Jesus? He's our perfect older brother!**

Transition to the Scriptures:

- ASK: So what is our older Brother Jesus like? Look for how He is described in the following passage.....

Read Hebrews 1: 1-6

(Heir of all things, made the world, radiance of God's glory, exact representation of His nature, upholds all things by the word of His power, seated right next to the Father, better than angels with a more excellent name, The Father expects Jesus to be worshipped by angels.)

- So, if this Jesus were your older brother on earth, imagine what would it be like to live with him?!! (Jn 7:2-5 tells us that during the Jewish holidays that Jesus earthly half-brothers and sisters didn't even believe Him to be God. Imagine the tension. They did come to believe, however, after the resurrection.)
- Even though Jesus is all these incredible things, how can He possibly relate to us as a sibling?

Read Hebrews 2:10-11, Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:15-16

(He was **made like us** in **all** things and was **tempted** in **all** things. Therefore, **He can come to our aid** when we are tempted!)

- **READ Colossians 1:21-22.** What else did our older brother do for us? (Reconciled us with the Father)
- Take a look again at Hebrews 2:11. According to His Word, what is Jesus attitude toward us, His siblings? (HE IS NOT ASHAMED TO CALL US BROTHERS AND SISTERS!!!)

Apply it to Life:

- How you feel (or think) knowing that Jesus is not ashamed to call you His brother? What does that do for you?
- Knowing that you can relate to Jesus as your brother, how might you experience Him differently?
- How do you need for Jesus to be an older brother for you today?
- **Pray Together:** "Let's wrap up our time by praying for each other and asking God to help us experience these truths more this week. Let's also pray specifically for friends and family to become a part of the family of God"