

20141109 Adoption – Krish Kandiah

Small Group Questions

Open in a word of Prayer

Do you remember one of the areas discussed last week was mercy:

Matthew 5:7–12 (NIV)

*7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.*

Did you find any practical applications for mercy in your life?

Discuss if you feel mercy is relevant to the message Krish shared, consider the mercy of God, and our application of mercy to those around us.

Family and Adoption

Krish explained the nature of his family, both biological and adopted children, and explained some of the humorous and frustrating elements to adoption and the implications in his family's life. He then went on to explain the concept of adoption into the family of God.

Krish asked us to consider what is gained in adoption, specifically adoption into the family of God. What are the benefits? Ask the group what they recall and what they see as benefits of adoption to a family.

Some of the possible benefits are:

- Becoming sons and daughters
- Gaining a brother
- Inheritance
- Identity
- Relationship
- Security

Discuss these and any others you come up with.

Galatians 3:26-27

26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

How is adoption different to forgiveness, atonement or redemption?

Krish talked about forgiveness as removing the negatives in a relationship, and adoption as adding a positive, discuss how this changes your view of Jesus death on the cross.

Questions to pose:

- As we are children of God, how does this change the way we respond to God?
- Does the concept of adoption alter your understanding of God as father
- How does this influence the way you approach other believers, your brothers and sisters?
- How does this influence the way that you view people that do not know Jesus?
- How can you invite them into your family, to know God as father?

Application of Adoption

Read this passage:

James 1:27 The Message (MSG)

26-27 Anyone who sets himself up as "religious" by talking a good game is self-deceived. This kind of religion is hot air and only hot air. Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight, and guard against corruption from the godless world.

Krish challenged us as a church and as individuals to love the unloved and to consider adoption as a means to do this, both as a church and as individuals. Krish informed us that there are thousands of children in our care system, most are in need of a loving family. Reading the scripture above, how can you respond to this, how can you be ready?

What practical step can you take to reach out to the loveless?

Would you consider adoption? If that is impractical, what can you do to love the loveless?

What stops you taking these steps, what obstacles can you move to be more willing to take practical steps?

Take time silently as a group to consider the implications in your Kingdom Life.

Pray for each other that you will strive to let God work in you to love the loveless and give you a heart for the homeless.