



## **FAITH 5 WITH FLAT JESUS!**

The week of Sunday, June 4, 2017

**SHARE** – Share at least One High and One Low from the day or the week.

**READ** – Galatians 4: 4-7

<sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba!

Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**TALK** –

**A little background info:** When Paul speaks of the coming of the Holy Spirit in Galatians, he does not use the normal symbols of wind or fire like in Acts 2; he uses a different symbol: family. Whenever the Holy Spirit enters into our lives, it reminds us that we are adopted into God’s family.

When Galatians 4 begins, Paul is contrasting children and grownups. In Paul’s time, before a child becomes a certain age, they were not able to inherit anything from their parents. After the child is old enough they were able to inherit everything that belongs to their parents. Paul uses this “before and after” as a metaphor to understand our role as God’s children. Paul is saying, because Christ is God’s son, and God’s son died for us, God adopts us and we inherit everything that belongs to God. What belongs to God? Technically everything, but Paul points us to two specific things in the text. 1. Freedom to live as a child of God. 2. The Holy Spirit. What does the Holy Spirit do? It reminds us that God is our “Abba” or Father...and it draws us closer into community as we remember that we are co-heirs of all that God has given us.

**Some questions to consider as appropriate** (some basic, some complex):

What are some of the best parts and worst parts of being a family?

What are some of the best parts and worst parts of being a church community?

Do you know anyone who is adopted? How has that affected their sense of belonging/family for better or for worse?

How does/can the Holy Spirit guide us through the best and worst parts of our lives?

How have I experienced God’s presence/the Holy Spirit in my life recently?

What do these words mean to you: Freedom, Adoption, Holy Spirit, Inheritance, and Community?

**How does this Scripture relate or connect to your life and faith, your Highs and Lows?**

**PRAY** – You can hold hands or fold your hands when you pray together...

Thank God for the Highs you shared with each other.

Ask God for whatever kind of help and support you need for the Lows you shared with each other.

If you want, you can pray the Lord's Prayer together.

**BLESS** – Mark each other with the sign of the Cross on the forehead and say this, or some other blessing you may think of:

**Remember that Jesus loves you and the Holy Spirit is within you!**