

*Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way*

June 7, 2015

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

John 3:1-17



We are Family! Object: song: *The Family of God*

What is a family? One definition I found in the dictionary said a family is "A group consisting of parents and children living together in a household." That is, no doubt, one way to define a family, but a family can be much more than that, can't it? A family can be any group that is brought together by common interests, beliefs, and love for one another. One of the best examples of this kind of family is the Church. The Church is a family bound together by love for God, their Heavenly Father, and for one another. This a song written by Bill and Gloria Gaither that describes the Church as the family of God.

"The Family of God"

I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God,
I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,
For I'm part of the family, The Family of God.
You will notice we say "brother and sister" 'round here,
It's because we're a family and these are so near;
When one has a heartache, we all share the tears,
And rejoice in each victory in this family so dear.

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus was together with his disciples in a house. When Jesus' mother and brothers arrived at the house, they sent someone inside to look for him. They told Jesus, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

Jesus looked around at the people seated around him and answered, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

Did Jesus love his real mother and brothers? Of course he did, but he also realized that he has another family. It was a family made up of those who loved his Heavenly Father and wanted to do his will.

You and I love our families, but we also have a wonderful family of faith made up of brothers and sisters who love God and love one another. It is wonderful family of faith made up of brothers and sisters who love God and love one another. It is wonderful to be a part of "The Family of God."

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our families and we thank you for our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; God's glory fills the whole earth. Alleluia (Isa. 6:3)

Word Search Puzzle

N C M V F E D Y O Z R S L W W
W W H C L W M A R G Q E A D U
F A O C O O O E H X V A W I F
J V R R D U H H J K M T T S W
Q I C G U T B N Z A O E X C R
C U N E O Z Z N F P T D S I G
K I R R F D J L Y K H R M P N
K Q B R S A H O U S E X G L Q
V A Y S D E M G U H R V B E G
E Z F J H I K I C O I G B S I
J H B Z B X V A L Z F L U K W
W E G O D J E I L Y P M R I V
N Q S P Y T S M D V E G L Q T
Z M U U O Q N X R E A N W A D
R N C C S H N F W Z D P E J F

FAMILY	CROWD	CIRCLE	JESUS	DIVIDED
LAW	EAT	MOTHER	DISCIPLES	KINGDOM
HOUSE	BROTHER	SEATED	TEACHERS	GOD

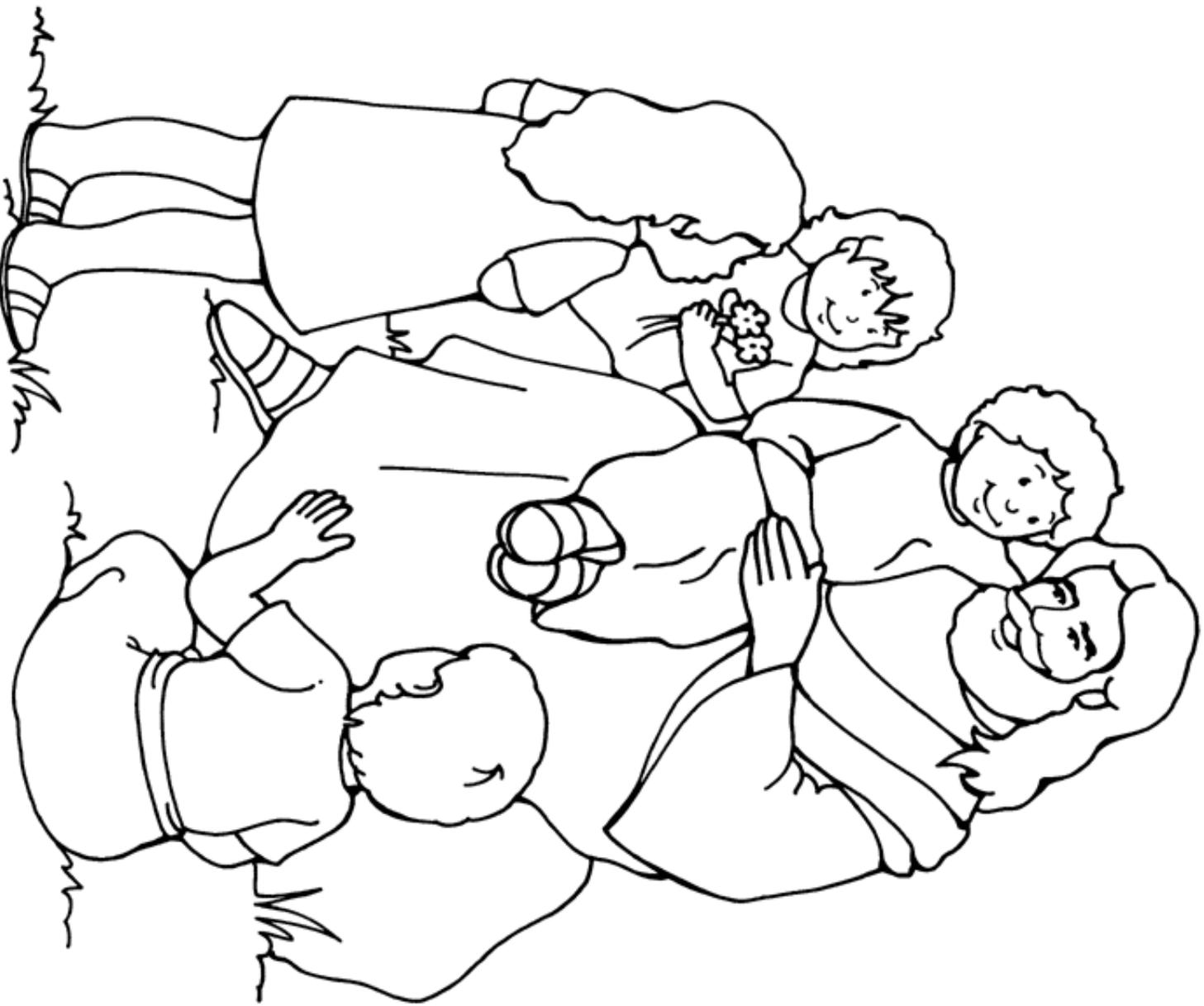
FAMILY TREE: Children could draw a large tree on a poster board or on their own individual piece of construction paper. Show children how to make branches and leaves, etc. Children can write names of people that they know belong to the FAMILY of GOD. Label their drawing at the trunk of the tree as the FAMILY OF GOD. Add flowers, birds, grass, or flower stickers, etc, as desired.

FAMILY COLLAGE: Children can be given construction paper to make a border around the edges. Children can cut out pictures to make a family collage with pictures of adults and children. Write words from today's Bible verse or lesson at the top of the picture collage.

FAMILY HUNT: Hide the letters of F-A-M-I-L-Y around the room and tell children to run to find the FAMILY!! Put their FAMILY letters in order on a poster board and write words about GOD's FAMILY around the poster board or a word for each of the F-A-M-I-L-Y letters

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Jesus and the Children



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