

MANHOOD || WOMANHOOD

INTRODUCTION:

What do you think our cultures attitude toward orphans is?

TAKE A LOOK AT THE BOOK

Read Romans 8:12-17

What does it mean to live "according to the flesh"? What does Paul mean by "putting to death the deeds of the flesh"?

What does Paul mean by "led by the Spirit of God"? What does this say about our salvation? How does our salvation (the Gospel) find expression in our lives?

What two "spirits" does Paul contrast in v.15? How are they different?

Think about what Paul has described here, we have been saved from living a self-centered life according to the flesh and we have been adopted as sons in the family of the Most High God. How does that change your worldview? Your motivation? What is an appropriate response to that?

"Adoption is the highest blessing of the Gospel, higher even than the gift of justification because of the richer relationship with God that it involves... Justification is a forensic idea, conceived in terms of law, and viewing God as judge...Adoption is a family idea, conceived in terms of love, and viewing God as father. In adoption, God takes us into His family and fellowship, and establishes us as His children and heirs. Closeness, affection and generosity are at the heart of the relationship. To be right with God the judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by God the father is greater." –J.I Packer

TAKE IT HOME:

Why does this passage lead us to think about foster and adoption as a practice?

Is God calling you to adopt or foster kids? If so, what is your next step?

Maybe God is not calling you to foster or adopt, if not , how can you help foster and adoptive families?