

BEARING THE FAMILY IMAGE

Ephesians 5:1-2

I. Our ability to image arises from the Father's adoptive love (v. 1).

II. Our pattern to image arises from the Son's propitiatory love (v. 2).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What are the two commands Paul gives us here? How are they related to each other?
2. How does our adoption enable us to imitate God? What is the relationship between being children of God and imitators of God?
3. How does finding our identity in other people, rather than God, lead to a failure to love people? What does it mean to find our identity vertically?
4. Are we to fulfill the law out of duty or delight? Or both? What does love teach us about the nature of Christian obedience?
5. How has Jesus loved us? What does it look like practically for us to love like Him?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Do I find my identity horizontally (in people and things) or vertically (as an eternal loved child of God in Christ)?
2. Do I tend to view sanctification and obedience as a mere duty? How can I cultivate a deeper delight in the law and affection for people?
3. How often do I meditate upon the cross of Christ? Is His loving sacrifice reshaping my life with a similar bent?