

# When does a person become a child of God, a part of God's family?

God wanted a family Eph 1:5 **His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own family by sending Jesus Christ to die for us. And He did this because He wanted to!** TLB

Step 1 – I, my spirit, must be born again by my believing the initial words of the gospel:

John 1:1-12 **In the beginning was the Word...As many as received Him** (Who? Jesus, the living word of God, by believing such words as "Christ bore my sins"),

**To them He gave the right to become children of God**, (notice it doesn't say I now become a child but it says I have the right to become a child of God)

(that is) **To those who believe on His name** (what is His name? :Rev 19:13 **...His name is called The Word of God** – so, who believe the word of God.)

So my spirit is born again when my heart believes God's word that my sins are forgiven:

1 Pet 1:23 **Having been born again...by the word of God...**

Jam 1:18 **He chose to give us birth by the word of truth...** NIV

Ezek 36:25-26 **I will sprinkle clean water** (My word) **on you, and you shall be clean** (forgiven for all your past sins for Christ's sake who bore them, by believing My words)...**I will give you a new heart** (that is) **put a new spirit within you...**

Am I yet a child of God, am I yet in God's kingdom? No, Christ is in me as the word of the kingdom, my heart sees it, but I, that is, my will is not yet living in Him, in His Kingdom:

John 3:3 (Jesus) **Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, they cannot see the kingdom of God** (so I can see it with my new heart but I'm not in it)

Step 2 - What does it take to be in God's Kingdom and fulfill my right to become His child

John 3:5 (Jesus) **Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water** (God's words believed in my heart) **and the Spirit** (submitted to and baptized with God's Spirit into my spirit), **they cannot enter the kingdom of God** (as a child of God).

Gal 4:6-7 **You can tell for sure that you are now fully adopted as His own children because God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts crying out, "Papa! Father!" Doesn't that privilege of intimate conversation with God** (His Spirit with your spirit) **make it plain that you are not a slave, but a child?...** MSGE

Rom 8:14- **As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the children of God.**

15 **For the Spirit which you have now received is not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear** (worry, lust, offence, all the sins of your self-willed human nature), **but you have received the Spirit of adoption, the Spirit producing sonship, in the bliss of which we cry, Father, My Father!** AMP

16 **The Holy Spirit Himself speaking with our spirit that we are children of God,**

No born again Christian knows God as their Father until we receive His Spirit of adoption. To be born again I repent of my sins, to become God's child I surrender to God's Spirit.

Acts 5:32 **...The Holy Spirit, whom God gives to those who obey Him...** MSGE

Not just born again but now as God's child having His Spirit, what can I do that I couldn't?

Matt 5:44-45 (Jesus) **I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven...**

2 Cor 6:14-17 **Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with sin? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with the devil? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols?... Therefore Come out from among them, And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch (believe) what is unclean (not of God) and I will receive you.**

18' **I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.**"

Matt 18:3 (Jesus) **Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted (born again) and become as little children (being in submission to your Father), **you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven** (only God's children can live in heaven).**

It is only now under God's Spirit that Jesus is my Lord, my owner, my human nature isn't

1 Cor 12:3 **Therefore I want you to understand that...no one can truthfully say, Jesus AMP **is my Lord, except by and under the power and influence of the Holy Spirit.****

Rom 8:9 TEV (Written to Christians) **But you do not live as your human nature tells you to (doing your own will); instead, you live as the Spirit tells you to (within and speaking to your spirit – doing God's will) — if, in fact, God's Spirit lives in you. **Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him** (is not yet God's child even though they are born again, but could yield to God at anytime).**