



# THIS IS US

A GENEROUS GOD

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**Next Three Weeks – One Message**

**Topic that has often been handled poorly**

**One that takes up roughly 25% of Jesus' teaching**

- 2000 verses on money

- 16 of 38 parables

**Observation – we often look at changing behavior and need to examine hearts first.**

**Aware of – previous abuse, patterns that bring guilt**

**My Heart – growing disciples of Jesus**

**'Generous God', 'Jealous God', 'Responsive People'**





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## 1. God has Revealed His Heart towards us

- given His word – inspired and complete
- reveals generosity one attribute of God
  - \* created for relationship with Him
  - \* initiated towards us while we were enemies
  - \* faithful to His promise amidst our failures towards him
  - \* we have the scriptures revealing His will & work
- redeeming his creation & children



## 2. For Us not About Us

- Isaiah 46:8 “I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’ calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.”

- clear about what He is doing, how this is all going to end
- inviting us to be a part, he is redeeming what is His
- ‘your kingdom come, your will be done’



## 3. The Generosity of God

### a) Love & Affection

- Rom. 8:32-33 “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?”

- John 3:16-17 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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- Rom. 5:6-8 “For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
- scripture clear he loved us and initiated for us
- cost was incredible – came down, took our place
- why – love and affection for us, redeeming



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## b) Protection & Provision

- Deut. 31:6 “Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.”

- James 1:17-18 “Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.”

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- Rom 8:37-39 “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- belong to Him – under His care
- all we have is from His hand – stewards not owners
- constant theme – do not worry, trust



## c) Position & Inheritance

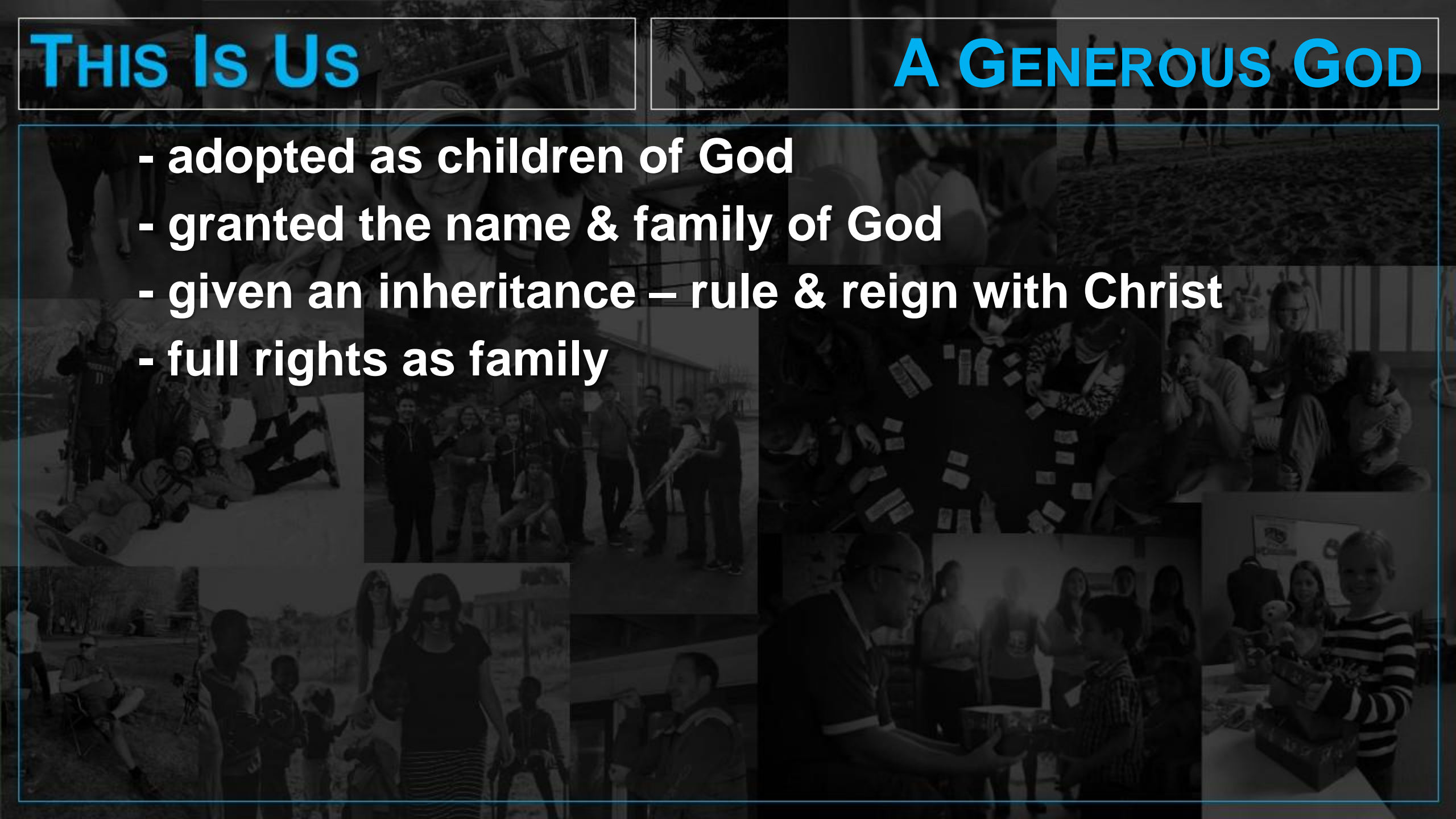
- Eph. 1:3-5 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will”

- Eph 1:11 “In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will”

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- adopted as children of God
- granted the name & family of God
- given an inheritance – rule & reign with Christ
- full rights as family





## d) Gifts & Empowerment

- 1 Cor. 12:4-7 “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

- John 14:15-16 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

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- John 14:26 “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”
- given the Holy Spirit
- given spiritual gifts
- called lights, ambassadors, agents of reconciliation
- works prepared for us to participate in



## e) Abundant Joy, Real Peace, Hope

- John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

- Matthew 11:28-30 “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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- John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”
- Rom. 15:13 “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”
- reconciled to God and others – live at peace
- perspective on God’s provision – gratitude & Joy
- eyes fixed on Jesus – courage, absence of fear



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## So What?

### 1. Scripture Gives us a Clear View

- Who God Is
- How God is Postured Towards Us
- His Ability to Accomplish His Will

### 2. See the Incredible Generosity of God to Us

- love & affection
- gifts & empowerment
- protection & provision
- Joy, Peace, Hope
- position & inheritance