

## JESUS RESETS FAMILIES

An original article

by Nick Hall



### **JESUS, RESET MY FAMILY LEGAC.**

*Jesus, I want You to remind me often of how  
You have chosen me to be a part of Your family.  
Keep me mindful of the blessings that come from  
You and help me remember to talk about You  
with my own children and family.*

### PREFACE

When we ask Jesus for a reset, He does more than forgive our sins. He literally exchanges our family line for His own. Romans 8:14 reminds us: “For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God” (niv). The reality of a new family in Jesus is so much more incredible than a clean track record. God doesn’t just look on our past and say, “I’m giving you hope for a new family in heaven.” No—instead, He looks on us and says, “You are my child; I have reset your past, your future, and your present.” God’s call doesn’t just change our future; it changes our today. It welcomes us into the family of God right now.

I can still see my grandparents on their knees, praying before they went to bed. I was only a child the first time I peeked in to get a glimpse

of what had become something of legend in the Hall household. Each night, my mom's parents would kneel together to pray for every kid and grandkid by name. Do you think that had an impact on me?

I know it did. Prayer changes things.

My grandparents' prayers impacted my parents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended relatives. As a result of this legacy, my parents prayed with us regularly. My dad studied Scripture. My mom would put up Bible verses on my mirror, finding different ways to encourage us in our faith.

### WHEN YOUR FAMILY LEGACY NEEDS A RESET

As I write this, I recognize most of us do not come from a legacy of faith. When I travel to speak for various events, my heart breaks at stories of brokenness at home. It's clear that this generation needs Jesus to reset their family legacy.

The good news is that all of us come into the family of God with a reset.

Hebrews 11, the great "Hall of Faith," is filled with stories of God resetting family legacies. Abraham, who was wealthy in his homeland, was called by God to leave everything he knew and venture into the unknown. Every Christian traces their legacy of faith back to Abraham.

Ruth, a Moabite foreigner, had a moment of decision when she could return to her homeland. Instead, she refused and chose to follow the God of the Israelites. That moment redefined her family legacy (all the way to King David and even Jesus!).

Rahab, a prostitute, is recorded in Hebrews 11 with spiritual giants like Moses and Abraham because she made a decision to follow the living God. Her past had no influence on her legacy because of the spiritual reset she received.

Whatever your background, whether you were raised in the church or near the local pub, there is hope when we trust in Jesus. In Jesus, we all experience a reset to our family legacy because we are adopted into His.



## LEARN to Encounter Jesus

*God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. (Ephesians 1:5 NLT)*

Pause for a few moments and slowly read the Scripture above. Make it personal. "God decided in advance to adopt *me* into his own family ... and it gave him great pleasure!" Now imagine Jesus sitting beside you. He puts his arm around you and smiles with great pride as He explains, "Just think. The Father has chosen you to be a part of our family. As your heavenly Father, He wanted to provide for you, protect you, care for you, and guide you, so He sent Me to bring you to Himself. It gives Him great pleasure to see *you* as part of His family."

Allow the Holy Spirit to reaffirm the truth of this relationship and confirm your adoption into the family of God. Now express your thanks for God's amazing gift.

*Father, I am grateful You decided to adopt me into Your family, because ...*

*I am amazed at what You went through to have me join Your family, and I thank You for ...*

## A NEW LEGACY

A few years ago I traveled with Winter Jam, the largest annual Christian music tour in the world. Each night, I would speak on 1 John 3:1, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (NIV).

And every time, I was amazed at the response. People would come up to me, confessing their broken past and telling me what God had done in their lives that night.

Through each powerful story, I realized once again that we are all longing for that sense of belonging. We want more than money or popularity, more than Facebook friends and Instagram followers. All the treasure in the world is meaningless without someone to share it with, some cause worth living for. We all want parents who love and encourage us and siblings who stand by our side. Our families on earth were meant to be a reflection of heaven.



## PRAY and Experience Scripture

*I give you thanks, O LORD, with all my heart ... (Psalm 138:1 NLT)*

Pause for the next few moments and give thanks to the Lord with all your heart. Thank Him for giving you a family and parents who have been your place of belonging, your source of encouragement and love. Or thank Jesus for being your place to belong, your source of encouragement and love. Take time to reflect and then give thanks to the Lord.

*Lord, I am thankful that You have given me a family who ...*

*Lord, I am thankful that You are my source of \_\_\_\_\_ because ...*

## OUR CALLING AS RESET FAMILIES

I heard someone say once, “God doesn’t have grandchildren; He only has sons and daughters.” Yet God’s invitation is that each generation would experience his reset and that we might gather as many families as possible for the great homecoming.

In Deuteronomy 6, immediately following the Great Commandment is the command to pass along the love of God and His teaching to the next generation.

*These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:6–9 NIV)*

In Joshua 4 we see the same thing. God miraculously stops the waters of the Jordan River to allow His people to pass over it on dry ground. When the people get over to the other side, God commands Joshua to order the people to build a monument.

*“In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ tell them... These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.” (Joshua 4:6–7 NIV)*

The things that God has done in your past should be defining stories in your family legacy moving forward. Write down what God has done and tell the story!

I’m convinced that one of the most overlooked disciplines in the Christian life is that of remembering. Remembrance inspires us with a track record of God’s faithfulness, inspiring us in turn to live lives of faith like our forefathers. This is the purpose of Hebrews 11—that we would see the example of saints laid before us and run hard after Jesus (Hebrews 12:1–2). Godly remembrance

is meant to lead to action, so that the next generation can see and imitate bold faith.

## **LOVE Others in Community**

Plan some moments when you tell your children, spouse, friends, and family about the times when God has provided, protected, or rescued you. First remember these defining stories on your own and then share them with others.

*I remember how God provided for me/protected me/rescued me when ...*

*I'm so grateful for how the Father showed up in my life when ...*

*I plan to share these remembrances with \_\_\_\_\_ when ...*

I want my family to experience “going after Jesus” together. I want my kids to taste and see that the Lord is good—that He still meets daily needs and has the power to heal today. But for this to happen, it needs to be more than simply going through the motions. This is inviting God to reset the way we see our families altogether. This is more than mealtime prayer, more than tradition, more than weekly church services—this is Jesus alive in our lives.

Whatever your family legacy, Jesus is the reset. Jesus changes everything. He isn't interested in changing only your eternity but

also your daily life. If you are a child of God, you have incredible promises to live by. He made you for so much more than one-generational faith. When we abandon our agendas and follow Jesus, we leave a reset legacy of living faith for future sons and daughters in the kingdom of God.



## **SHARE** with Others in Community

Plan to share your story of how Jesus has begun to reset your family legacy. Your words might begin like this:

*I am amazed at how Jesus is changing our family. Because of Jesus, we ...*