

Family Ties





What does it mean to be the
family of God?

Ephesians 2:19-21 NLT

¹⁹So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰Together, we are his house, built on

the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord.

Family values:

The background is a vibrant blue sky with stylized white clouds. In the foreground, there are green trees and white streetlights, creating a clean, modern aesthetic.

Family values:

☞ We want all people to join the family.

Family values:

- 👤 We want all people to join the family.
- 👤 The Word of God is the foundation of the family.

Family values:

☞ We want all people to join the family.

☞ The Word of God is the foundation of the family.

☞ Jesus is the center of the family.


Family values:

☞ We want all people to join the family.

☞ The Word of God is the foundation of the family.

☞ Jesus is the center of the family.

☞ The family is being carefully joined together to build something special.




We need to remember
that we serve a perfect
Savior, not perfect
people.



1 Peter 2:17a NLT

¹⁷Respect everyone, and love the family of believers.



A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a suburban neighborhood. In the foreground on the left is a large red house with white window frames. In the middle ground, there's a blue house with a dark roof and a white street lamp. To the right is an orange house with a white garage door and a large green tree. The background shows a clear blue sky with a few white clouds and a bright sun. The overall scene is bright and cheerful.

Who builds this family and
how does construction
take place?

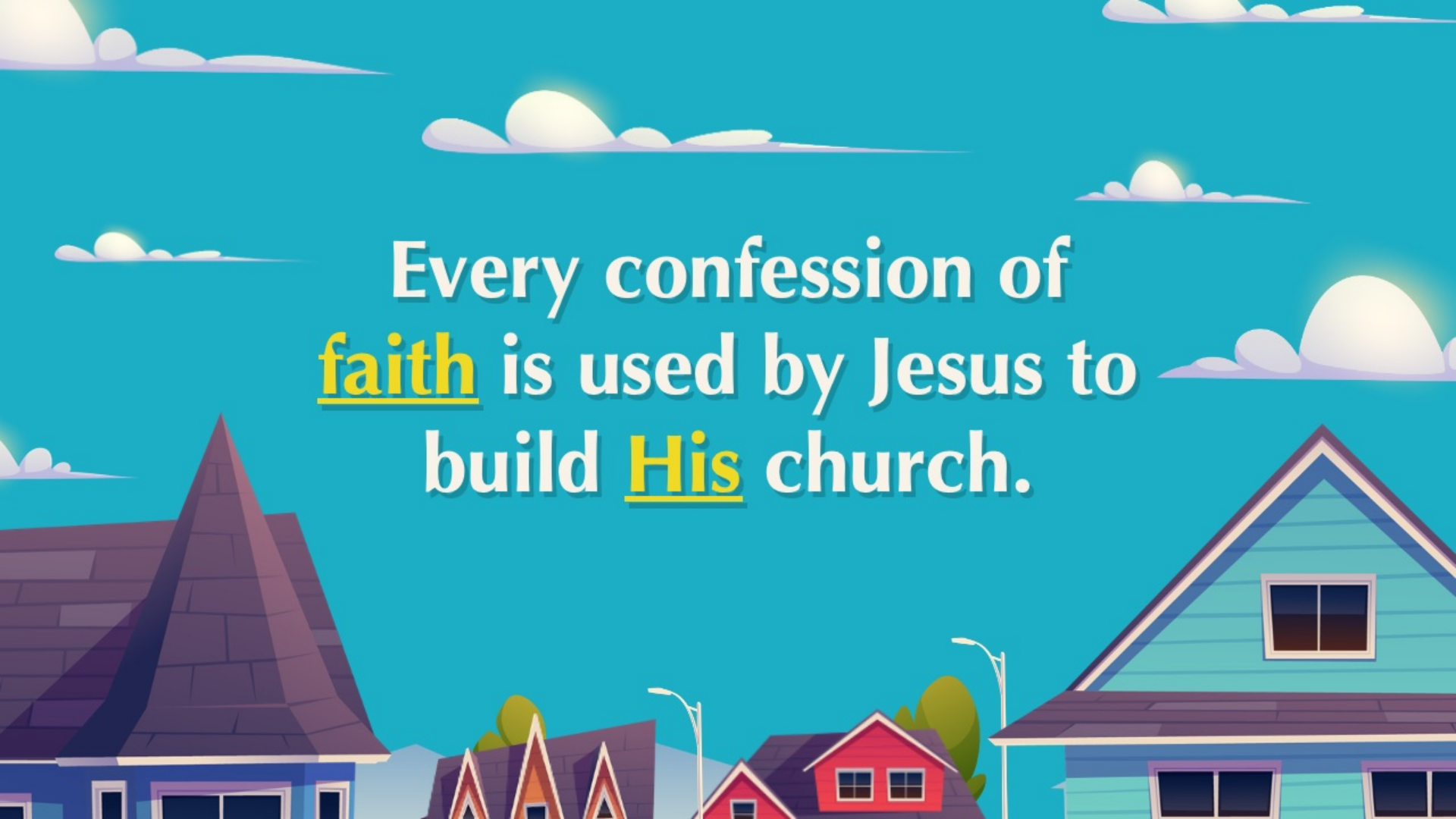
Matthew 16:15-18 NLT

¹⁵Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?”

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven

has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. ¹⁸Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.”



Every confession of faith is used by Jesus to build His church.



A Snapshot of the Family of God

Acts 2:42-47 NIV

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and possessions to give to anyone

who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

The only thing that makes
us different from the early
church is that they got
there first.



What we need to
understand about the
family of God?



The background features a stylized landscape with a blue sky, white clouds, and a row of houses and trees at the bottom. The houses are in shades of red, blue, and purple, with dark roofs. There are green trees of various shapes and sizes. The overall style is flat and modern.

1 Peter 2:4-5 NIV

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



Let's focus on three
two-word phrases:



Let's focus on three two-word phrases:

Living
stones

We receive life from the living Stone (Jesus) so we can share life in community with each other.



Let's focus on three two-word phrases:

Living
stones

Being
built



Jesus is building us not to put us
on display for the world. He is
building us so He can use us
to reach the world.



Let's focus on three two-word phrases:

Living
stones

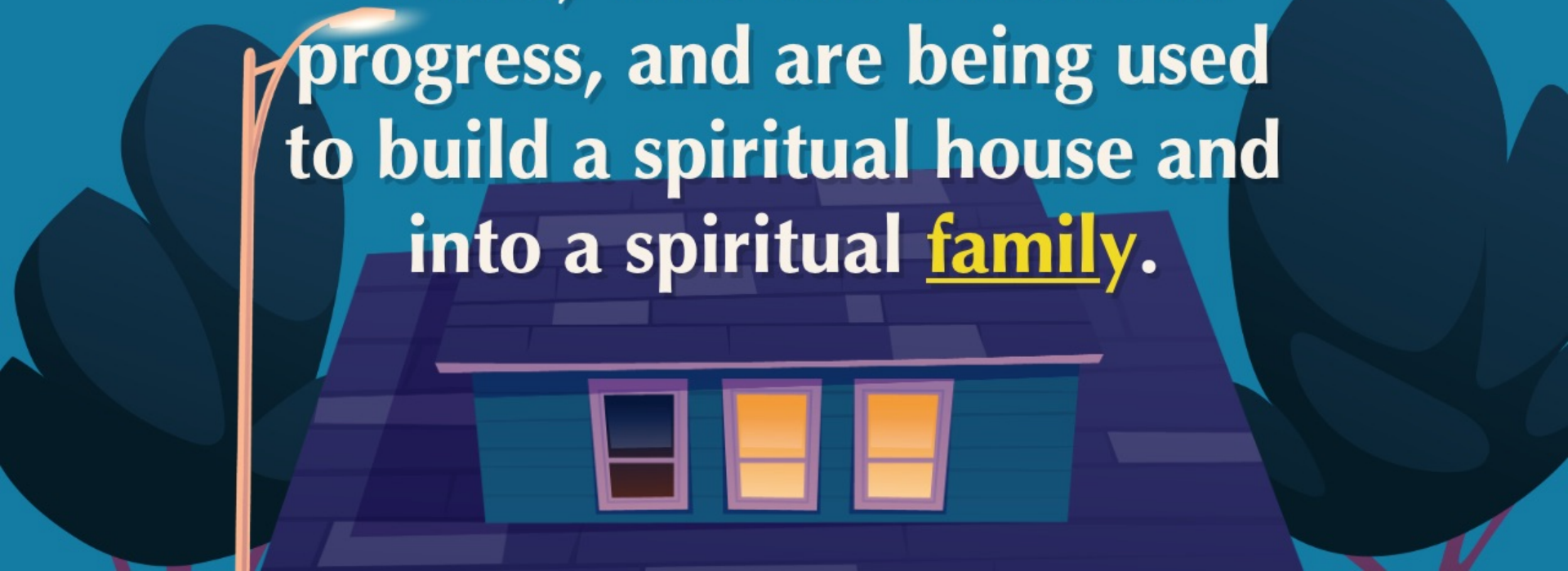
Being
built

Spiritual
house

Our lives disconnected from
the family of God can be very
empty and very destructive.



God has called us to be living stones, who are a work in progress, and are being used to build a spiritual house and into a spiritual family.





1 Peter 2:9 NIV

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

