

# Epistles - This is how God's family lives



*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*

*~ Philippians 2:3-4 ~*

*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

*~ Philippians 4:8-9 ~*

When you go to school you get a uniform which shows which school you belong to.

When you join a sporting team you also get a uniform to wear which shows which team you belong to.

When you become part of God's forever family though, you don't get a special uniform to wear or even a cool badge. But God wants people to know we are part of his forever family by the way we live. And God has told us in the Bible how his family should live.

God says his family should be people that put other people's needs above there and are to think about what is good and right.

At the start of the book of Philippians God tells us that if we are part of his family we should "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

That means instead of living for what is best for just us, if we are part of God's forever family, we should be thinking about what is best for others and do that.

And a bit later in Philippians we are told that God's family should only really think about "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things."

Remember we can only become part of God's forever family when we trust in Jesus, not by doing good things. But once we are a part of God's forever family we should try and live his way.

It can be hard at times, and at times we might fail, but God forgive us when don't get it right all the time. Also, God has given us the Holy Spirit to live his way and promises to help us live his way when we ask him.

**Some questions to think about:**

1. How can people know we are part of God's forever family?
2. Are we made part of God's forever family because of the good things we do?
3. How should we live if we are part of God's forever family?
4. How does God help us live his way?

**Prayer**

Dear God,

Thank you that you make it possible for us to be part of your forever family.  
Please help us to live our lives your way.

Amen.