

# God Chooses Us

## Theme

God chooses us to be His children.

## Object

A soccer ball or a ball for another sport; a book without a prominent title on the cover

## Scripture

Ephesians 1:3-14

Do you like sports? (Hold up the ball in your hands). What's your favorite sport? (Pause.) Are you pretty good? (Pause.) Not everyone is, you know. Today I have a story to tell you about a boy named Thomas who was pretty bad at sports. (Open the book, and pretend you're telling the story from it.)

Thomas looked up from his book as his teacher announced to his class, "It's time for recess--we're going to play softball. Jacob, you and Mary will be the team captains today."

"Oh no!" Thomas thought to himself, "If Jacob and Mary are choosing their teams, I'll probably be one of the last ones chosen, as usual." As he stood with the other children on the playground, Thomas tried to pretend it didn't bother him when the other children were chosen, one by one, and he was left behind. But the truth was, it really hurt his feelings. "I wish, just once I could be the first one chosen," Thomas whispered to himself. (Close the book and put it down.)

I hope this hasn't ever happened to you, but the truth is that it's happened to most of us at one point or another. Surely there must be a better way to choose teams. Does anyone have any ideas about how to make the process better? (Pause.) I have an idea! What if we just have everyone number off 1-2-1-2-1-2? All of the ones could be on one team and all of the twos on the other. (Number the kids off and have them separate into the two groups). This way, no one is the last one chosen.

Our Bible lesson today is about being chosen to be in God's family. Would you like to be in God's family? (Pause.) The good news is the way Thomas' classmates chose teammates is not how God chooses His family. God chooses everyone who accepts Jesus as their savior. The Bible tells us that

before He even made the world, God loved us and chose us--He already knew who would choose to accept Jesus. Anyone and everyone can be in God's family by placing their faith in Jesus. God welcomes and wants everyone!

When we confess our sin and put our trust in Jesus, we become God's adopted children, and He makes everything work out according to His plan for us. I am so glad that God chose me to be a part of His family.

How does it make you feel that God wants you to be part of His family?

Dear God, thank You for choosing us and for sending Your Son so that we can choose to be a part of Your family. In Jesus' name, amen.

Interactive Group Activities  
by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

**Sermon Title:** "He Has Chosen Us"

**Scripture Reading:** Ephesians 1:3-14

**FAMILY COLLAGE 4 HEAVEN:** Use old greeting cards or magazine pictures (of children and people) to make a collage of all God's adopted children. Write GOD HAS CHOSEN US FOR ADOPTION.

**I AM ADOPTED ART:** Each child can draw a picture of themselves in the middle of the paper. Write - I AM ADOPTED, I'M THE ONLY ONE OF MY KIND. Decorate the paper as child desires and make a border for the ART.

**FACE PAINTING:** Someone can come into the classroom and help the teacher to draw a happy face heart on each child's face and write I AM ADOPTED!

**GOD'S FAMILY:** Draw a picture of heaven, with shiny GOLD foil or wrapping paper for the streets, inked-fingerprints for children in heaven, etc. Write in bright markers, WE ARE ADOPTED INTO GOD'S FAMILY.

**ADOPTED FAMILY OLYMPICS:** Let children make a banner to hold as they march in a parade. Give supplies to each team for a parade - whistles, flags, kazoos, streamers, etc. The banners can be decorated and say WE ARE ADOPTED INTO GOD'S FAMILY! Children can march to fun music or sing some songs that they would like to sing in their parade.

**FOOT FAMILY:** Let children trace both of their feet several times and cut the feet out. Place in the shape of a wreath and tape or glue to a paper plate. Write their family names on the "foot family" and ADOPTED BY GOD on the wreath.

**ADOPTION PAPERS:** The teacher can make up an adoption form on the computer to give to each child. Use parts of our lesson today to complete the form for the children. Let children fill out the paper and roll up like a scroll and tie the scroll with a ribbon. Idea for the "adoption papers" could be: GOD HAS CHOSEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR ADOPTION INTO GOD'S FAMILY. \_\_\_\_\_ THANKS MY FATHER IN HEAVEN FOR LOVING ME AND ADOPTING ME INTO HIS FAMILY. Signed \_\_\_\_\_, Adopted Child

**ADOPTION CAKE:** Have a frosted and decorated cake with GOD'S KIDS, or I AM ADOPTED, etc. Let children enjoy a piece of cake for their treat today!

**Song:** "God Is So Good"

Words and Music (pdf)



Accompaniment Track MP3

**About Carol Williams**

Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles the clown.

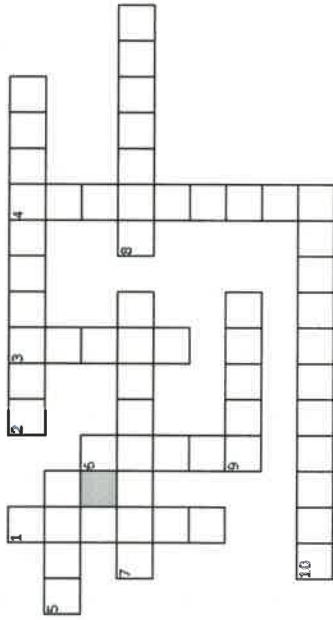
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# Crossword Puzzle

## He Has Chosen Us



### ACROSS

2. Remaining the same
5. A proposed course of action
7. A considerate and thoughtful act
8. The ability to go wherever one chooses without restriction
9. To have confidence in someone or something; to depend on
10. Money or property left to children by their parents

### DOWN

1. A group of persons consisting of one or two parents and their children
3. To have selected something from several possibilities
4. Assurance that something will be done as promised; to make certain
6. To take into one's family and raise as one's own child

GUARANTEE	FAMILY	TRUST	FREEDOM	UNCHANGING
INHERITANCE	PLAN	CHOOSE	ADOPT	KINDNESS



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# Children's Worship Bulletin

## He Has Chosen Us!

Ephesians 1:3-14

## Word Search Puzzle

Z Y Q M S P I R I T U A L G A  
 J C E B E L I E V E Z D N T P  
 H Y A U W A W G D P E O I S L  
 F G H G V N I U U S L A P E E  
 Q P J F V Z S D I E S D R C A  
 U M U Z M Z D M B S O O A R S  
 A F V R R M O P E J U P I E U  
 B K R B C R M N L J N T S T R  
 L C R E P H D W F K Q X E W E  
 E O H Y E N A H E A V E N L Y  
 S W P O I D Q S E E M Y K T Y  
 S V G K S W O H E P V I S S L  
 E N D R A E Q M R D T U L F A  
 D G U A R A N T E E R T C Y O  
 Z X O I N H E R I T A N C E P

BELIEVE	SECRET	PLAN	PLEASURE	BLESSED
PRAISE	FAMILY	TRUST	SPIRITUAL	GUARANTEE
PURCHASED	PROMISED	CHOOSE	INHERITANCE	KINDNESS
BELONG	ADOPT	FREEDOM	WISDOM	HEAVENLY

Your Church Name Here  
Anytown, USA

# Coloring Page



**Jesus and the Children**

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# Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Y	P	V	Q	K	F	L	N	W	H	T	U	M	I	G	E	R	J	S	C	B	O	D	X	A	Z

- 2-7-25-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 11-17-12-11-10 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6-17-16-16-23-22-13 \_\_\_\_\_
- 15-12-25-17-25-8-11-16-16 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5-14-8-23-8-16-19-19 \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-8-20-10-25-8-15-14-8-15 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-17-22-13-14-19-16-23 \_\_\_\_\_
- 14-8-10-16-17-14-11-25-8-20-16 \_\_\_\_\_
- 25-23-22-2-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6-25-13-14-7-1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 11-17-12-19-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 20-10-22-19-16 \_\_\_\_\_

PLAN	INHERITANCE	FAMILY	PROMISED
TRUST	CHOSE	TRUTH	ADOPT
FREEDOM	UNCHANGING	GUARANTEE	KINDNESS





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