



EST. 1948

**MOORLANDS
COLLEGE**

FOLLOW

WHO MATTERS TO GOD?

SESSION 4

Teaching

Do you connect more with Elsa from Frozen or Snow White? Disney princesses may have been a part of your childhood until Mirabel from Encanto ripped up the script, although she could still sing perfectly. Snow White – the home-making, animal-whispering porcelain princess versus the fierce, sassy and powerful snow queen. OK, so she's not a princess. But you get the point. There's no right or wrong answer, but Elsa reflects our culture. The focus on the individual is intense, with the party anthem, Let it go, encapsulating it really well: "No rights, no wrongs, no rules for me – I'm free." What does she mean? Free to be what? Free to be me. Whatever that means. But that comes at a price that both you and others have to pay.

The dirty little secret of life is that we are told we need to know ourselves and love ourselves first, and not to depend on anyone or anything else - but being alone sucks. And it's not how we were designed to live.

Metaphor

There is something beautiful about seeing a loving relationship between a parent and a child. The adopted child gets a new name, new identity, new family. And didn't have to work for it. Adoption is a picture of the gospel. Even in times where there is discipline and misunderstanding, there is a love that offers a context to every sphere of the relationship. We see this in how great parents don't always affirm everything a child chooses. That is often a far cry from how we see God. Who might love us, but maybe doesn't seem to like us and judges our actions and relationships.

Our significance is found not in a subjective experience, or the insecurity of money, possessions, or achievements, but in an objective relationship with an eternal Father who loves us as His own. In the whole of the new testament, which is made up of 27 books, being “born again” is referenced just three times. A more consistent idea is being included in a new family, specifically through adoption. Father is the Christian name for God, which is why so many people pray, “Father God”.

In Ephesians 1 Paul writes that “Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.”

QUESTIONS



1. How does the relationship you have with your parents effect how you might see God?
2. Do the things that you choose to follow really care about you?



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PRESENTED BY BECKY ROWE & ANTHONY THORPE,
MOORLANDS COLLEGE GRADUATES**



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