



Loving Them *As Your Own*

In God's family, there *are no step-children*

The world divides with labels.
*God sees heritage, reward,
and children.*

*"Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a
reward from him."*

Psalms 127:3

01

THE WORLD SAYS

"My kids, her kids, step-kids" — categories that create distance.

02

GOD SAYS

Every child in your home is heritage — an inheritance to steward equally.

03

YOU MODELED

When you loved hers the same as your own, you reflected the Father's heart.



PSALM 127:3 — THE FOUNDATION

Children are a *heritage* from the Lord

*"Children are a heritage from the Lord,
offspring a reward from him."*

PSALM 127:3

- **Heritage = inheritance**, not burden. A legacy God places in your hands to protect and grow.
- **Reward = gift to steward**, not earned. Each child is intentionally entrusted, not accidentally assigned.

Every child in your home — yours or hers — was entrusted to you by God equally, with equal value and equal calling.

WE ARE ALL ADOPTED — 1 JOHN 3:1

"See what great love the Father has *lavished* on us, that we should be called children of God!"

LAVISHED = extravagant, poured out, equal — nothing held back

YOU WERE ADOPTED

You were brought into God's family. He **never treats you as a step-child**. No second-place status.

SO YOU REFLECTED HIM

When you loved hers the same as your own, you lived **Romans 15:7** — accept one another as Christ accepted you.

EQUAL LOVE

Same love doesn't measure biology. It mirrors the Father — **lavish, consistent, chosen**.

1 JOHN 3:1 · ROMANS 15:7

Same love *protects* the family

THE WARNING — FAVORITISM DESTROYS

GENESIS 37:3-4

"Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons... and when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him."

GENESIS 37:3-4

THE LESSON

Favoritism tore a family apart

Jacob's unequal love created jealousy, pain, and years of separation between brothers. What seems small becomes a wound.

YOUR WISDOM

Equal love was protection

Your choice to love hers the same as your own guarded your home from that same jealousy. That was biblical wisdom in action.



THE MODEL — MATTHEW 1:19-25

Joseph — *a biblical stepfather*

Not biologically his, yet he chose him fully. Joseph raised Jesus, protected Him in danger, taught Him his trade, gave Him his name.

Fatherhood is not just biology. It's commitment, presence, and same love — every day.

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

ROMANS 15:7 — MATTHEW 1:24-25

OUR HOUSE NOW

But as for me and
my household,
we will serve the Lord

Joshua 24:15

Not about the past marriages. About the house God has put in front of
you **now**.

Every child — yours and hers — has **equal value, equal gift, equal love**.

Next study → [Healing with Adult Stepchildren](#)