

We are Chosen

Matthew records in Matthew 22:14 "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

After my Mom's funeral, my sister Peggy and I visited about our parents and the conversation quickly turned to my Dad who was really Peggy's step-dad. My sister was from my mom's first marriage and I came along ten years later during the second marriage.

My Dad had gone to be with the Lord almost 25 years ago and Peggy shared with me some wonderful stories that I had not really heard before that reflected how much he had loved her and had expressed it in so many little ways. He had made her feel loved, special and treasured even though she was not really his offspring. Eventually Dad had tried to adopt her but when legal entanglements prevented that, her name was changed so she could have his last name and it would reflect to others what had always been true: Her 100% membership in his family. As she spoke of Dad, she soon broke into tears remembering how much she missed him. It convicted me that she had a special relationship and appreciation for Dad that, in some ways, was deeper than my own. Dad didn't have to love her and include her, but he did. Dad had made a choice to love her through the tough teenage years and on into womanhood and had been there to walk her down the aisle when she was married. He chose to love her when she needed forgiveness or was un-loveable. And my sister returned that love now because she realized that she was chosen. And out of a well of gratitude for that fact, flowed tears and longing to be with Dad again.

I was convicted on how often I take for granted that I have been chosen by my Heavenly Father. When was the last time I shed a tear of gratitude for all He has done for me, for all He has forgiven. And when did I last long to fellowship with Him like my Sis did now for my Dad?

In John 15 it is written: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last."

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