

FAMILY BUSINESS

Luke 2:49

Introduction: It was a common sight to see a business sign that read: ".....and Son orand Sons.....such a business was one of my favorite television shows..."Sanford and Son.." Kathy remarked one day as Larry Caves and I cleaned out our garage, loading it onto his old truck," watching and listening to you two remind me of Sanford and Son".....A business with such a name usually included the entire family in its business matters...

I want us to take a look at **our family business** this morning..God's Family Business.

I. THE FATHER STARTS THE BUSINESS

1. The Genesis passages reveal how, why and what business our Heavenly Father started. (1:1; 1:22 and Revelation 21:3-4)
 - created the world
 - populated the world with creatures
 - added a man and a woman
 - fellowshipped with them
2. Our Heavenly Father's business is His Family, having fellowship with those people whom He brings into His family.
3. Noah and his family were selected by our Father to start the business over.
4. From the new start, our Father then selected Abraham to be the source of a new family, a special nation, Israel, the Jews.

II. THE FATHER TURNS THE BUSINESS OVER TO HIS SON

1. When the time was right, our Father sent His Son down here to continue the Family Business.
2. *"How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"* Luke 2:49
 - He called people to Him

- He healed; He taught; He loved; He cried; He laughed; He revealed what the Father was like; He taught what the Father wanted; etc..

3. Jesus, God's Son, continued the Father's Business of bringing people into the Father's family until the Father called for Him to return Home.

III. THE FATHER'S BUSINESS HAS NOW BEEN TURNED OVER TO HIS FAMILY

1. Jesus passed on the Family Business to the Family...Christians...the Church:

- *"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."* (Mt. 28:19-20)

- *"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

2. The Father has now entrusted His Family Business to **us**..the Church.

- We are to continue where Jesus left off.
- We are to bring people into our Father's family.
- We are to teach people our Father's ways.
- We are to follow our Father's Family rules.
- We are to each do his/her duty within our Family.
- We are to be obedient to our Heavenly Father.
- We are to follow His Holy Spirit's leading.
- His Son Jesus, His First Born is over us all and is our example of what our Heavenly Father wants us to be like.

3. God's Family is a special, peculiar family. To be a member of it is to be different from the rest of the world. We are to be a **holy** people.

CONCLUSION

1. God's Family Business is bringing people into His Family.
2. It is **our, the church's** responsibility now to operate the Family Business.