I am Accepted (10-22)

Romans 15:5-7 (NIV)

Acceptance means to take one by the hand to receive them into your home.

Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)

I am Accepted: Ephesians 5:1 (ESV)

We are accepted as **Beloved Children** of God

As God’s children we are to be **Imitators** of God

Because I am accepted by God I am empowered by God

Ephesians 5:2 (ESV): To **Walk in Love**

Ephesians 5:3-5 (ESV): To live **Morally Upright**

Ephesians 5:6-10 (ESV): To be **Discerning**

1 John 1:5 (ESV)

Ephesians 5:11-14 (ESV): To avoid **Unfruitful** works

Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV): To be **Wise**

Ephesians 5:19-20 (ESV): To be **Encouraging** and **Thankful**

Ephesians 5:21 (ESV): To be **Humble**

Source of the Empowering: Ephesians 5:18 (ESV)

The goal is not to merely experience behavior modification by changing how we act and react

The goal is to get to know, to come to love and to learn to trust God as our Father

Why? We become like who we love

Our behavior changes form sinning to worshiping

This change comes not to get God to accept us but because God has already accepted us

God accepted us as His beloved children the moment we surrendered the authority to run our lives over to Him – John 1:12 (ESV)

Surrender = Acceptance as His children