



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of September 15, 2019

Sermon: "Belonging That Make Jesus Known"

Text: Ephesians 2:11-22

Parallel Passages: Isaiah 56:1-8

SUMMARY

We have a **unifying problem**, that before Christ none of us belong, and we love to let each other know it. But we also have a **unifying solution**, that as we belong to Jesus we also belong to one another, and a **unifying purpose**: we can only get to glory together.

FOR FAMILIES

Where do you feel that you belong the most? With your family? With your friends? Why do you feel that way?

How do we know that we are in the family of God? What does it take to get into God's family?

What are ways that you isolate those around you?

Do you feel loved and that you belong at church? Why/why not?

Do you like going to church? How does the church family help you know Jesus and follow him more closely?

FOR GROUPS

What is your experience with belonging in the church? Have you ever experienced deep belonging that is centered on Christ? Have you experienced isolation?

How do you, intentionally or unintentionally, set up standards of belonging that are based on works and not grace? How have you found yourself tending to self-isolate instead of pressing into belonging?

How does the practice of vulnerability and confession allow us to realize our unifying need for Jesus?

In what ways are we tempted to unite around aspects of belonging other than the gospel? How do we strive to be faithful to unite around the new humanity in the blood of Christ?

Are you ever hesitant to come to worship or gather with the body? How can we help each other to come to the throne of grace with confidence?

If we are our brothers keepers, how do we make sure that we all make it to the end together? What role does church membership play?