

# GRACE CHURCH: A PLACE TO BELONG

Matthew 28:19-20 & other Scriptures

**Matthew 28:19** ***“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”***

Ok, but how?



**BELONG**ing comes before **BELIEV**ing.

**John 1:43** *The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, **“Follow me.”*** <sup>44</sup> *Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.* <sup>45</sup> *Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”* <sup>46</sup> *Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”* Philip said to him, **“Come and see.”**

**Luke 5:27** *After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, **“Follow me.”*** <sup>28</sup> *And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.*

<sup>29</sup> *And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them.* <sup>30</sup> *And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”* <sup>31</sup> *And Jesus answered them, **“Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.*** <sup>32</sup> ***I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”***

## Application in Community

**Welcome:** We hope you felt like you BELONG. No matter your background, you are welcome here. This is a place to explore faith in Jesus Christ. And we believe the best way to explore the beliefs of the Bible is together in mixed small groups, eating together, reading and talking about what the Bible says and how to live it out today in this culture. If you would like to get connected in community, ask for Tia Hanson at the Information Center or email her at [tiah@gracechurchseattle.org](mailto:tiah@gracechurchseattle.org). You can also give us a call or make an appointment with a pastor. Our number is – 206.937.8400.

### Application Questions:

1. Let’s talk about when you were first introduced to Christian community – was it the teaching or the people that made you want to learn more? Elaborate on your answer...
2. Read Luke 5:27-32:
  - Who are the main characters?
  - Which characters would you honestly most identify with?
3. This story illustrates Jesus building a community of worshippers that would never come together for any other reason. Does your faith in Jesus today create a place of belonging for people from all backgrounds to feel welcome? Or the opposite?
4. When is the last time you went to someone’s house or out to lunch with people who are completely different from you?

**Weekly Challenge:** Go, be proactive and make everyone around you feel like they BELONG. You will only be able to do this with the help of the Holy Spirit. So, pray for conviction and the Spirits help with every interaction; lets turn around the reputation of Christians in Seattle.

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