

Encounter Church
Sunday August 10, 2025

You Belong
The Family

INTRODUCTION: Share the story of being in Colorado during Thanksgiving.

Ephesians 2:19 (MSG)- “That’s plain enough, isn’t it? You’re no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You’re no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone.”

Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)- “God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ...”

God thought about me in advance and He paid a great price for me to be part of His Family!

It is more than signing your name on a membership card. **You belong to Family!**

We belong to God and we belong to One Another!

You don’t belong to a country club or a social organization. You belong to the Body of Christ.

We’re not an organization we’re an organism!

We’re not a business we’re a family! That’s our culture!

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. I Belong

I BELONG IN THE FAMILY!

John 1:12 (NLT)- “But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.”

I’m not an outsider, I’m family!

Psalms 68:6-“God places the lonely in families.....”

God’s antidote for loneliness, A FAMILY!

I BELONG

2. You Belong

Mark 9:38-41- “John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone using your name to cast out demons, but we told him to stop because he wasn’t in our group.” “Don’t stop him!” Jesus said. “No one who performs a miracle in my name will soon be able to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. If anyone gives you even a cup of water because you belong to the Messiah, I tell you the truth, that person will surely be rewarded.”

Revelation 7:9-10- “After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. And they were shouting with a great roar, “Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!”

I BELONG, YOU BELONG!

3. We Belong Together

Romans 12:5 (NLT)- “so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.”

Ephesians 4:15-16(NLT)- “Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.”

VALUE THE BODY OF CHRIST! VALUE THE FAMILY!

1 Peter 2:17 (NLT)- “Respect everyone, and love the family of believers....”

What one step can I take today to connect with another believer at a more genuine, heart to heart level.?

I BELONG

YOU BELONG

WE BELONG TOGETHER