

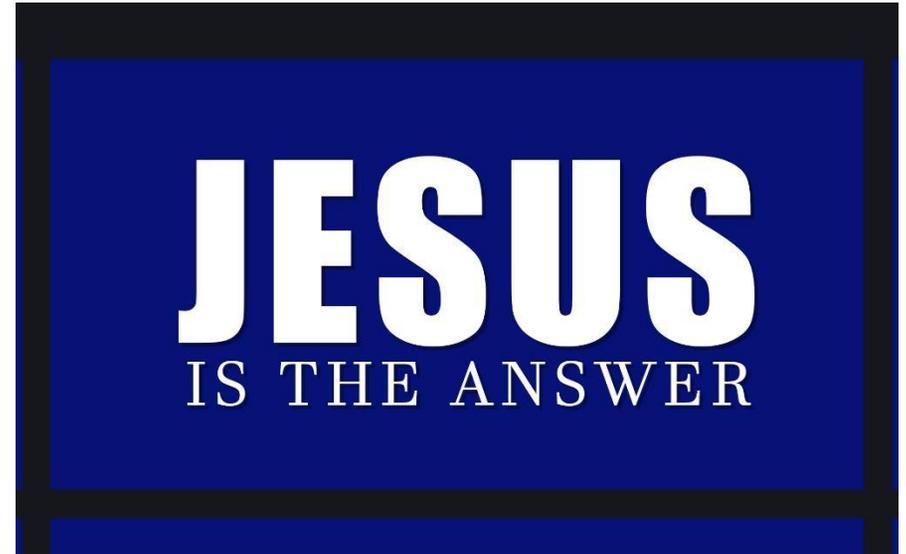
Questions for Discussion and Reflection:

1. What does it mean to belong? What's the difference between being with people and belonging to them?
2. What are the good aspects of an individualistic culture? What are the bad aspects?
3. Do you agree that it is necessary for the Church to have a distinct identity (to have some exclusive beliefs and expectations) for it to be a place of true belonging? Why or why not?
4. In what ways can these distinctions become unhealthy (and unbiblical)?
5. Why is it important that the Church allows people to belong, even before they "become" or "believe?"
6. What practices will you or your small adopt to make our church more of a place of true belonging?

Response:

What is God saying to me today?

How will I respond?



Where Can I find True Belonging?

Scripture: John 13:31-35

The most important distinguishing mark of a disciple of Jesus is the _____ in the Church community.

Humans are creatures who seek to _____ before we _____.

We don't just need to be _____ people, we need to _____.

Contributors to our unnatural world:

1. Digital _____
2. High _____
3. Hyper- _____
4. The decline of _____ that brought people together.

We are created to belong to others, but we live in a world specifically designed for _____.

Bad News:

The _____ isn't much different than the _____.

Good News:

If we do it right, this can be the Church's _____
_____.

Where can people find true belonging?

_____ and his _____.

How can we become a community of true belonging?

1. Remember that when we are saved, we are saved into a _____.
2. We must devote ourselves to the _____ of the family of God.

A person can't belong if there's nothing to _____ to.

We are all a work in progress, so we must allow people to _____ before they _____ or _____.

3. We must reject strengthening our identity by setting ourselves up _____ the world, but by setting ourselves up for the _____ of the world.