

Do you know what it feels like to not belong?

Biblical Truth About Belonging:

I. You were made to _____

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 2:18 (NASB)

II. Belonging is _____

So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the Lord of the fruit of the ground. Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and for his offering; but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."

They said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. They said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." Genesis 11:3–4 (NASB)

III. God created _____

For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit <u>we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves</u> or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. I Corinthians 4:12–13 (NASB)

You Belong Here:

l. _____

_____ don't exclude you.

For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. If they were all one member, where would the body be? But now there are many members, but one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." II. _____ doesn't exclude you.

On the contrary, <u>it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary</u>; and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable, whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked...

I Corinthians 12:22–24 (NASB)

III. God created you _____

...But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

I Corinthians 12:24b–25 (NASB)

POINT:



DOGGY BAG

Something to take home and chew on!

- 1. Where do you belong to a group of people?
- 2. What makes connecting in healthy, loving relationships hard for you?
- **3.** In your dreams, what would your perfect church or small group look like? How might Christ be calling you to help create a place for other people to belong?
- 4. How could Christ Church help you belong to Christ and the body of Christ? (Please email any ideas you have of how you feel called to belong to pastortodd@christchurchva.org.)

Take a step toward belonging this week:

- 1. Download the free Christ Church app to use for all your online connecting needs: https://bit.ly/get-app-ccva.
- 2. Let us know you are here today. Fill out a Connection Card every Sunday by clicking on the CONNECTION CARD tab on the online campus platform. This helps us stay connected.
- Sign up for ministry newsletters. If you don't get the weekly Pastor's Newsletter, make sure you sign up for that one. We also have weekly updates for the ministry areas you are interested in. Sign up for any of these at <u>CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/UPDATES</u>.
- 4. Check out our online bulletin each Sunday. Access on the Christ Church app, the RESOURCES tab each week on the online campus platform, or check our Facebook posts on Sunday mornings (@ChristChurchVA). Here's today's edition: https://conta.cc/3d1N38y
- 5. Join us at the church at 4pm today for our Welcome Back Bash. Friends and family are invited.
- 6. Come and bring the whole family to our Wednesday Night Dinner (5:30pm) & Discipleship (6:30pm). Join a class (<u>pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org</u>), serve in Kids' Ministry (<u>agraybill@christchurchva.org</u>) or join the Dinner Hospitality Team (<u>badams@christchurchva.org</u>).
- 7. Sign up for our Pizza with the Pastor starter class, Membership Class or Baptism Class, all through today's bulletin.
- 8. Join us for Midday Prayer weekdays at noon via LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG.

ANSWER KEY:

Biblical Truth:

I. Made to **BELONG**

II. Belonging is **HARD**

III. A PLACE TO BELONG

You Belong Here:

I. DIFFERENCES

II. WEAKNESS

III. TO BELONG

Point: WE ALL NEED A PLACE TO BELONG AND YOUR PLACE TO BELONG COULD BE RIGHT HERE.