

CTK Community Group Sermon Discussion Questions & Announcements

Week of 3/5/23

DISCUSSION: [Luke 15:1-3, 11-32](#)

(Discuss the question cluster below - as much or as little as works for your group)

Feel free to break off into smaller groups if it helps you share more personally

We're starting a sermon series called, "Belonging." In it we'll focus on the parable of the prodigal sons in Luke 15. The parable is a story meant to change our lives. It shows us who belongs to God, how we belong to him (and each other), and what's truly valuable to God. The hope is that in increasingly knowing that we truly belong to God and to each other, we will increasingly thrive.

- I. This week, our passage (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) showed us the overall picture of what belonging is all about. Jesus shares this picture with the Pharisees and Scribes after they grumble about how he spends time with 'sinners' (v.1-2). The parable is Jesus' way of teaching them (and us) who and what God really values. To start to understand what is to belong to God through this parable the sermon focused on: 1) What is belonging? (v.13, 28-29); 2) How does Jesus teach us about belonging? (v.1-3, 12, 29); and 3) What does Jesus call us to do? (v.17-24). Let's discuss how these things impact our lives.*
 - A. What connected with you from the sermon or from the passage?*
 - B. Can you think of a time or place where you felt like you really belonged (not just fit in)?*
 - 1. What was great about that? What was it like?*
 - C. When are some times or ways you struggle to feel like you belong to God — even if you believe you do?*
 - 1. Thinking a bit harder: what makes you unsure in those moments that you belong to God?*
 - 2. What makes you feel like your belonging is conditional - like you have to go 'shopping' to find it instead of simply receiving it?*
 - 3. What would it look like/feel like if you could just receive it, rather than earn it? What would be different in your life?*
 - D. How might the way Jesus welcomes us back (paying the extra price to redeem us through embracing shame, putting his seal of righteousness on us, letting himself be sacrificed) change the way you think about God's ability to welcome or interest in welcoming you?*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sunday School teacher needed: There is an immediate opening on our Grades K & 1 Sunday School class teaching team for the remainder of the school year (through mid-June). Class meets weekly from 9:15-10:15am, taking some Sundays off around holidays. Teachers share assisting with class and leading lessons using a provided curriculum. If you enjoy working with children and might be interested in joining this team, please contact Dana Russell at dana@ctkcambridge.org.