***MESSAGE NOTES***

***BUILT For Belonging***

***What On Earth Am I Here For?***

***Part 3***

***October 26, 2025***

***Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.  
 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. God is building a home. He’s using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he’s using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home. Ephesians 2:17-22 (The Message)***

**1. I WAS CREATED TO \_\_\_\_\_\_; NOT JUT TO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***“This kingdom of faith is now your home country…You belong here…”***

***“That's how it is with us. There are many of us, but we each are part of the body of Christ, as well as part of one another.” Romans 12:5***

**2. The strength of MY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is shaped by the depth of MY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***“[Jesus] treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit…”***

***“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples.” (John 13:34–35)***

**3. BELONGING NOT ONLY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me; it \_\_\_\_\_\_ me.**

***“[God] is using us all, irrespective of how we got here, in what he is building.”***

***As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)***

**4. Real Fellowship Is Rooted in \_\_\_\_\_ and Fueled by \_\_\_\_\_**

***“Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you…peace to us…”***

***“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you.” (Romans 15:7)***

**“How to Live Like Family”**

**Commit to a Group:**

**You can’t love the whole crowd on Sunday, but you can love a handful deeply. Join a small group where you can be known, needed, and nurtured.**

***“They devoted themselves to the fellowship…”* *(Acts 2:42).***

**Practice Encouragement Daily:**

**Send a message, make a call, pray for someone by name.**

***“Encourage one another daily…”* *(Hebrews 3:13).***

**Show Up When It’s Inconvenient:**

**Families don’t gather only when it’s easy. Faithfulness deepens family ties.**

***“…let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing...” (Hebrews 13:10:24-25)***

**Carry Someone’s Burden:**

**Find one person struggling and quietly lighten their load.**

***“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you fulfill the law of Christ.”***

***(Galatians 6:2).***

**Forgive Quickly, Reconcile Often:**

**Nothing poisons fellowship faster than resentment.**

***“Bear with one another and forgive one another… forgive as the Lord forgave you.”* *(Colossians 3:13).***

**This Week’s Challenge:**

*** BELONG: Move from attending to connecting; make this church your spiritual home.***

*** INVEST: Don’t just consume; contribute. Bring your gifts and your presence to the table.***

*** INVITE: Extend the circle. The family grows when we welcome others in love.***

**Memory Verse**

***“Now you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of His household.”  
Ephesians 2:19 (NIV)***

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**1. I WAS CREATED TO BELONG; NOT JUT TO BELIEVE.**

***“This kingdom of faith is now your home country…You belong here…”***

***“That's how it is with us. There are many of us, but we each are part of the body of Christ, as well as part of one another.” Romans 12:5***

**2. The strength of MY witness is shaped by the depth of MY relationships.**

***“[Jesus] treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit…”***

***“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples.” (John 13:34–35)***

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**“How to BELONG”**

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