



## Back to Church • Belonging • Week 1

### ICEBREAKER

Which clubs or activities were you a part of in high school, and are any of the things you were involved with then still part of your life?

### KEY SCRIPTURE

**Acts 2:46-47**  
**Matthew 12:46-50**

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In the message, our preacher Betsy Marvin asked whether you feel like you belong at Cornerstone. Talk about this—do you? What makes you feel like you do or don't belong? How much of our sense of belonging has to do with our internal sense of ourselves, and how much has to do with external factors (i.e. the actions or behavior of others)?
2. Discuss this statement by Andy Stanley: "The church should be the safest place a person can be." In terms of having a sense of belonging, has that been true in your life? What could we each be doing to help others feel like Cornerstone is the place where they most belong? (Get specific, and practical!)
3. Read Matthew 12:46-50. How does Jesus' expanded definition of who is family challenge our own definitions? What do you think the Church might look like if we truly considered our church family to be our brothers and sisters?
4. Read Hebrews 10:25. While we have been prevented from physically meeting together during this pandemic season, how have the other ways of connecting into your church community sustained and encourage you during this time? Do you think of being able to gather in person differently now than before the pandemic?
5. What would you say to someone who is reluctant to join a life group because it feels too vulnerable or like there are too many unknowns? How would you encourage someone to take the risk?

### PRAYER

Pray for any specific requests, and pray together for Cornerstone to be a place of true connection and belonging for our whole church family.

### CHALLENGE

Sometime this week, read Acts 2:42-47 and reflect on the picture of the church that we're given. Is God placing anyone on your mind to either invite into your life group, or to give them the encouragement they need to take a step towards belonging?