Living Out Your Calling "Called To Belong"

Sunday, March 30, 2025 @ 10:30AM | Pastor Dan Moran

You are called to belong.

"God is the one who made all things, and all things are for his glory. He wanted to have many children share his glory..." Hebrews 2:10 (NCV)



The church is something to belong to, not a place to go. It's not an event and it's not a location, it is a relationship.

• The Second purpose of my life is that God formed me for His family.

"<u>He predestined us to adoption as sons</u> through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will," Ephesians 1:5 (NASB)

• God's family is called the church.

"Although I hope I can come to you soon, I am writing these things to you now. 15. Then, even if I am delayed, <u>you will know how to live in the family of God</u>. <u>That family is the church of the living God</u>, the support and foundation of the truth. 1 Timothy 3:14-15 (NCV)

• I am <u>called to belong</u> to His church.

"Now you who are not Jewish <u>are not foreigners or strangers any longer</u>, but are citizens together with God's holy people. <u>You belong to God's family</u>." Ephesians 2:19 (NCV)

"You are among those who have been <u>CALLED TO BELONG</u> to Jesus Christ." Romans 1:6 (NCV)

Christianity is based on God's Word and God's Word states we are called out.

THE BENEFITS OF BELONGING Five Biblical Metaphors

1) In God's family: <u>I learn my true identity</u>.

"Now you who are not Jewish are not foreigners or strangers any longer, but <u>are citizens</u> together with God's holy people. You belong to God's family." Ephesians 2:19 (NCV)

"So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy <u>have the same Father</u>. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters." Hebrews 2:11 (NCV)

2) In God's temple: I'm. supported by others.

"In whom the whole building, <u>being fitted together</u>, is growing into <u>a holy temple</u> in the Lord, 22. in whom you also are <u>being built together</u> into a <u>dwelling</u> of God in the Spirit." Ephesians 2:21-22 (NASB)

"I mean that I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you" Romans 1:12 (NCV)

3) In Christ's Body: I discover my unique value.

"Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with <u>Christ's Body.</u> We are all parts of it, and <u>it takes every one of us</u> to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So <u>we belong to each other</u>, and <u>each of us needs all the others</u>." Romans 12:4-5 (TLB)

I learn my identity in God's Word and God's family. I my get stability in God's temple, the family of Faith. But I learn my capacity in Christ's body. I discover my unique value.

"If your foot says, I'm not a part of the body because I'm not a hand," that doesn't make it any less a part of the body. And if your ear says, 'I'm not part of the body because I'm only an ear and not an eye," would that make it any less apart of the body?"

1 Corinthians 12:15-16 (TLB)

"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, <u>for we are all members of one body</u>." Ephesians 4:25 (NIV)

4) In God's flock: I'm protected, and I'm cared for.

"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve." 1 Peter 5:2 (NASB)

"Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 (NASB)

"Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing."

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NASB)

5) In God's garden: My life becomes productive.

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. 5. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:4-5 (NASB)

Be a branch: nothing more, nothing less.

"To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever.

Amen." Ephesians 3:21 (NASB)