

Discussion Questions for September 11th /September 15th

KICKING IT OFF: If you could live in any sitcom, which would it be and why?

MEMORY VERSE: "But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God."

John 1:12 NLT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Read Genesis 1:26-27 and Psalm 139:13-14. The essence of belonging starts with God. What do these scriptures reveal to you about being connected and belonging to Him in this personal and intimate kind way?
- 2. Read John 1:12 & John 3:1. Belonging is about relationship. As a believer in Jesus, describe the kind of relationship that is available to you with God the Father? How are you experiencing that kind of relationship today? What does it tell you about how God sees you?
- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. Discuss who you are in Christ? What ministry has been given to you? What message has been given to you? Who are you for Christ? Through Christ, whose righteousness are you? Given the answers to each of these questions, discuss what you believe it means to not only be a new creation in Christ, but what does it look like to live that out?
- 4. Read 1 John 2:1-3. What does the word advocate mean to you? How important is it for you to know that Jesus is your advocate? How does this deepen your awareness regarding God's desire for you to belong to Him?
- 5. Read Luke 14:12-24. What do these scriptures tell you about God's desire for everyone to be included within the invitation process? What does it tell you about His desire for "you" to be included? Discuss the ways in which people give excuses today

for not responding to His invitation. What are some creative ways those people could be "compelled" to positively respond instead of making excuses?

- 6. Read Matthew 25:15. How many talents did the master give each servant? What was each amount based upon? Notice how the number "zero" is not reflected here. What does that tell you about the abilities that God has given each person? How are your abilities being used to further God's kingdom?
- 7. Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-26. How important are each parts of the body? Why has God composed the body in this way? What level of care are the parts of the body to have for one another? Discuss how important it is for this level of care to be present and active within the church? Give examples of how you have seen this enacted within the church as a whole, as well as within your specific life and/or life group?

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This week take some time to write out a prayer thanking God for creating you in His image, and connecting you to Him in this personal kind of way. Share with Him your delight in knowing that you and your life matters, as you were fearfully and wonderfully made.