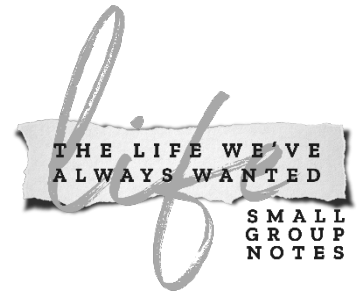


Home Group Notes
Week of February 19, 2023
You Belong Here



ABOUT HOME GROUPS

Have you thought about joining a Home Group? Go to www.trinityonline.org "Small Groups"

WHO HELPED YOU BELONG?

When think back to when you first connected in our fellowship, who helped you feel like you belong here? What did they do?

DID YOU KNOW?

The statement, "You Belong Here," is pointing to the biblical command of welcoming every person and the practice of hospitality. The Greek word used in the New Testament translated as "Hospitality" is *philoxenia*. The root meaning of this compound word is "love of strangers." In addition to this idea, the Bible repeatedly tells us to value every person and warns us against the dangers of prejudging and preferential treatment of people.

WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE BIBLE

Let's look at passages about "hospitality" and welcoming people. What do we learn?

Leviticus 19:33-34

When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

Matthew 25:35

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me

Titus 1:6, 8

An elder must be . . . hospitable

1 Timothy 3:2

Now the overseer is to be . . . hospitable

Acts 28:7

There was an estate nearby that belonged to Publius, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us to his home and showed us generous hospitality for three days.

Romans 12:13

Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 15:7

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Hebrews 13:2

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

James 2:1-7

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

DISCUSS TOGETHER

What did you learn from Sunday’s message (February 19) 1 Corinthians 12:21-25? How can we be different from the world’s practice of preference?

What are your thoughts about how we can live out our Core Value of “You Belong Here?”

“We practice the culture of intentional hospitality that Jesus modeled. We value His kind of unconditional love that invites the outsider to become part of His family. We believe you are intrinsically valuable as His creation regardless of your religious background or lack thereof, your abilities or disabilities, your ethnicity, or social and economic status. We long for you to *belong* to the family of God at Trinity Church—to come and grow and be transformed.” (From our website)

PLEASE PRAY

- For more servants in Kids, Middle, and High School ministries
- For the many people suffering in Turkey and Syria and for our ministry partners who are pouring themselves out to serve the hurting people
- For the work of the Holy Spirit through our Global Partners serving in difficult places