

# RENOVATIONS

**BELONG \* BELIEVE \* GROW \* LIVE**

## Part 1: *Belonging*: Devotional Readings for January 6-12

### Notes

#### Monday, January 6 Read Psalm 33

Look especially here at vv.10-18. What does this tell us about God and what does this observation tell us about the tendencies of fallen humanity? \_\_\_\_\_

Note the emphasis on “the nation (or people)” rather than the individual. Why is this important? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Tuesday, January 7 Read Genesis 4:1-10

What drove Cain to murder Abel? \_\_\_\_\_

Notice God’s warning against jealousy and frustration and how it can come to control you. While most of us (thankfully!) wouldn’t stoop to murder, in what ways are Cain’s emotions and drives recognizable? \_\_\_\_\_

What does this tell us about the human condition? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Wednesday, January 8 Read Romans 3:9-25

Our temptation when confronting sin and failure is to work a little harder, set new boundaries or, alternatively, just give up! Why are neither of those workable solutions? \_\_\_\_\_

How does recognizing our own helplessness in sin make us both

#### Sermon notes for:

**“All for One...And I’M the One!”**

**January 12, 2019**

*Getting to the foundation- Recognizing where work is needed*

1. Sin and brokenness are rooted in selfishness
2. We are unable to escape that brokenness on our own power

*Renovation points- Beginning the process of rebuilding*

3. God begins our restoration when we wholly dedicate our time, talent and resources to discipleship.

*\*How (specifically) do you serve God with your prayers, presence, gifts and service?*

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better disciples and more gracious Christians to others? \_\_\_\_\_

Why is it critical that this be practiced in fellowship (i.e. the church)? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Thursday, January 9 Read Matthew 5:17-48**

At the root of Jesus' teachings here is the reminder to put ourselves second and consider the needs of the other. The fact that we find this so challenging says a great deal about our human brokenness. In what ways is our worship of God practiced within human society? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Friday, January 10 Read Ephesians 1:7-11; 2:1-10**

In our readings this week we've looked at the fallen nature of humanity and the world. Despite all of this, what is God's ultimate plan for his creation (hint: look at Ephesians 1:9-10)? \_\_\_\_\_

Reflect on this as you re-read Ephesians 2:5. What does it mean to be "alive together in Christ?" \_\_\_\_\_

### **Saturday, January 11 Read James 4:1-10**

Jurgen Moltmann said "the church does not have a mission; the church *is* a mission." In light of this passage, what do you think he meant? \_\_\_\_\_

According to James, how do we escape sin and brokenness and how is the fellowship crucial to that goal? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Small Group Discussion Guide

**Series Introduction:**      **Lesson 2-** “All for One...And I’M the One!”      1/12/20

### **Getting Started...**

1. **Begin with a prayer for the group. Before praying, ask each person to share at least one area that impedes or weakens their discipleship. Focus your opening prayer on asking for God’s help and for strength in the face of our struggles.**
2. **Read Genesis 4:1-10 and discuss the following questions from last Tuesday:**
  - What drove Cain to murder Abel? Notice God’s warning against jealousy and frustration and how it can come to control you. While most of us (thankfully!) wouldn’t stoop to murder, in what ways are Cain’s emotions and drives recognizable?
  - What does this tell us about the human condition?

### **Laying the Foundations...**

1. **Read Ephesians 1:7-11; 2:1-10 Share & discuss the following:** In our readings this week we’ve looked at the fallen nature of humanity and the world. Despite all of this, what is God’s ultimate plan for his creation?
2. Look at these points from today’s sermon and discuss the questions that follow with your group:
  - **Sin and brokenness are rooted in selfishness**

*Is this an unusual way for you to look at and understand sin? Why or why not? How is the nature of sin-as opposed to individual sinful acts- all about putting ourselves above God (Try reading Romans 1:28-32 for background)?*
  - **We are unable to escape that brokenness on our own power**

*Why is it insufficient for us to simply “try and be good?” (Read Matthew 5:48 and Romans 7:14-25). Why is it important for us to recognize our helplessness as regards sin?*

### **Building...**

1. **Before you close your group session, read the following quote and answer the questions.**

**God begins our restoration when we wholly dedicate our time, talent and resources to discipleship and life within the Body (the Church).**

*If only God can save us, why do we need to do anything? What part do we play in our salvation (reflect on the example of the disciples, the role of the church in the world and our call to be witnesses to Christ)?*
2. **Share prayer concerns/needs/ praises among the group. Close with prayer.**