



## Belong to Family

**Focus** God created us to belong to Him and to belong to family. Sin separated us from relationship with God, but Jesus became the sin offering for us so we can be accepted when we believe.

**Fun** Have the group think of an expedition they would like to take (climb Mt. Everest, explore ocean depths, volunteer for the International Space Station, etc.)

**Review** Key Scriptures: Genesis 3:7–10; Isaiah 59:2; Leviticus 22:21; Mark 15:34; Romans 3:23, 5:8; Ephesians 1:6

1. We are all born rejected and separated from God because of sin. God is perfect, and we must be made perfect to be accepted by God.
2. God accepts us when we believe that Jesus was the perfect offering to take away all of our sins. Jesus makes us perfect through grace so that we can have a relationship with a holy God.
3. If we believe, we belong to Christ, and we belong to Christ's body, the Church. As Hebrews 12:22–23 tells us, the spirits of justified men are made perfect by Jesus, the Perfect Offering. We belong to God, and we belong to His family.

**\*Group Dynamics Idea\*** Ask your group for ways you can all become closer. Maybe you can volunteer with each other or create a group text during the week to help maintain a connection in between meetings. People may even want to establish accountability partners with others in the group to receive or give help through difficult times.

### Discuss

1. Read Genesis 3:7–10. What separated Adam and Eve from God? How did this cut off their desire to belong to God?

2. When we believe Jesus made the perfect sacrifice for our sin, we are accepted into the family of God. Read Hebrews 10:14, and explain why being sanctified is continual, though we are made perfect forever.
3. Romans 3:23 says we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Name some ways that our relationship with Him is based on the position of “being perfect” and not on our performance.
4. Read Matthew 5:48. What is our position with God? Explain why only the “Perfect One” can perfect you.
5. Ephesians 1:6 says, “He made us accepted in the Beloved.” Belonging to God fulfills our desire for acceptance and family. Why is this truth good news? Why does belonging to Christ make a difference in Mark 9:41?
6. In Mark 15:34, Jesus cried out in rejection because He felt completely abandoned by God. How does this demonstrate that He first loved us, as 1 John 4:19 states?

**Take Home** As we conclude, remember the following:

- God created us to belong to Him and to belong to His family.
- Jesus became the sin offering for us so we could be made perfect and be accepted by a perfect God.
- We were born rejected, but through Christ, we can be born again and belong to God and His family.
- God will never leave us nor forsake us.

**Prayer** Father, we bless You for accepting us into a holy relationship through Jesus’ sacrifice for our sins. You loved us first, and You restored our perfect position in You. We believe You will never leave us nor forsake us. Jesus, we love You with our whole being, and we walk daily in Your sanctification. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

**\*New Leader Tip\*** Point your members toward KAIROS, Equip classes, baptism, and membership as ways to belong and to know the family of God. Remind your group of

upcoming conferences and offer to carpool or attend services together. Kindly share this information as a benefit of belonging to the family of God.