STUDY GUIDE: "Belonging"

Discussion Starters

1. On a scale of 1-10 (low to high) how strongly do you feel you belong?

2. To whom do you belong (in order of importance)?

Study

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek or Hebrew word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

4. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

--"world" (John 8:23)—

--"kingdom" (John 18:36)-

--"serve" (Acts 27:23)—

--"placed" (1 Corinthians 12:18)-

--"desired" (1 Corinthians 12:18)—

--"love" (Colossians 3:14)—

--"perfect" (Colossians 3:14)-

--"bond" (Colossians 3:14)—

--"church" (1 Thessalonians 1:1)-

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5. Read the following passages and note what they tell you about "belonging". John 1:12; 8:23; and 18:36; Acts 27:23; 1 Corinthians 12:14-21; Colossians 3:14; 1 Thessalonians 1:1

6. What is the "church" (from the Biblical word in 1 Thessalonians 1:1)? What are the implications of that for us?

Taking It Home

- 8. What part of the body are you? What do you contribute to the body?
- 9. What part of the body do you think is most important? Why?
- 10. What part of the body do you have trouble accepting? Why?
- 11. Do you belong in the world? Please explain?