

You Are Called To Belong
Live Your Calling: What On Earth Am I Here For? – Part 3
03/17/2019

Hebrews 10:25 (NLT) “And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near”

1 Timothy 3:14-16 (NCV) 14 Although I hope I can come to you soon, I am writing these things to you now. 15 Then, even if I am delayed, you will know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth. 16 Without doubt, the secret of our life of worship is great: He was shown to us in a human body, proved right in spirit, and seen by angels. He was proclaimed to the nations, believed in by the world, and taken up in glory.

1st) The second purpose of my life is that God **FORMED** me for his family.

1 Timothy 3:15a (NCV) Then, even if I am delayed, you will know how to live in the family of God.

- God formed me for his family

Eph. 4:16 (NLT) “He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love”

- God didn't need a family, he simply desired one
- To create us
- To bring us into his family
- To share with us all that he has

James 1:18 (TLB) And it was a happy day for him when he gave us our new lives through the truth of his Word, and we became, as it were, the first children in his new family.

- Every human being was created by God, but not everyone is a child of God
- The only way to get into the family of God is to make a choice
- The choice is to be born again into it
- You become part of the human family by your first birth (Natural Birth) you become part of God's family by your second birth (Spiritual Birth)

1 Peter 1:3a (TLB) All honor to God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; for it is His boundless mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again so that we are now members of God's own family.

- Faith in Jesus

Gal. 3:26 (NLT) For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

2nd) The Church is God's **FAMILY**.

1 Timothy 3:15b (NCV) That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth.

- God's family is called the church.
- The word for "church" in the Bible is the Greek word *ecclesia*
- It comes from the word *kaleo* which means "called"
- *Ecclesia* means you're called out
- So the word "church" literally means the group of people who are called by God.
- Christianity is based on God's Word and God's Word says the church is the called out.
- The church is the people of God

Eph. 1:5 (NLT) "His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ."

3rd) I'm Called To **BELONG** To The Church.

1 Timothy 3:15c (NCV) the support and foundation of the truth.

- To belong to God's church which is going to go on and on forever in eternity

Heb. 2:10 (NCV) "God is the one who made all things, and all things are for his glory. He wanted to have many children share in his glory."

Eph. 2:19 (ICB) "So now you are no longer visitors or strangers. Now you are citizens together with God's holy people. You belong to God's family."

- To know God
- Be a part of his family
- That family is called the church

Romans 1:6 (NLT) And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ

- Metaphors for the Church:
- A family

A) In God's family I learn my true **IDENTITY**.

- In Christ, we are to intentionally forget who we were and take on a new identity

Gal. 2:20 (NIV) "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me"

- In a church family you become part of something that is bigger than yourself

Heb. 2:11 (CEV) "Jesus and the people he makes holy all belong to the same family. That is why he isn't ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters."

- Being baptized is the public symbol that says I'm not ashamed to say I'm a part of the family

Acts 2:41 (NLT) "Those who believed what Peter had said were baptized and added to the church about three thousand that day."

1 Timothy 3:16 (NCV) Without doubt, the secret of our life of worship is great: He was shown to us in a human body, proved right in spirit, and seen by angels. He was proclaimed to the nations, believed in by the world, and taken up in glory.

- A Temple
- It's like a building that is erected for God's glory

1 Cor. 3:16 (NIV) Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?

B) In God's temple I'm **SUPPORTED** by others.

- There are going to be times in your life when you need other people to hold you together

Eph. 2:21-22 (NIV) "In Christ the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit."

Rom. 1:12 (NCV) "I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you."

- A Body.

1 Cor. 12:27 (NLT) All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.

- We're different parts but we're all connected, and together we complete the body, and we accomplish together what we could never do on our own.

C) In Christ's body I discover my unique **VALUE**.

Rom. 12:4-5 (LB) "Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's Body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others."

- We're all different -
- We need each other
- A Flock

Psalm 100:3 (NIV) Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

D) In God's flock I'm **PROTECTED** and I'm cared for.

1 Peter. 5:2 (ICB) "Take care of God's flock, his people, that you are responsible for. Watch over them because you want to, not because you are forced to do it."

Psalm 23 (NIV) The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.