

Small Group & Personal Bible Study Guide

This Weeks Memory Verse: John 15:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.

Study Questions: Called to Belong – Called to Become

Read Romans 1:1-7

1. What does it mean to you to belong to Jesus Christ? (verse 6)

When I come to Jesus and make Him the Lord of my life I belong to Him. He is my King, the Lord of my life. I was bought with a price (His blood – Acts 20:28) He chose me (John 15:16).

2. What does it mean to be called to be saints? (verse 7)

Saints are set apart, holy! When I am called to be a saint I am called to be holy. This is not something I obtain but rather what God bestows upon me by the covering of Christ. I am indeed a saint if I am in Christ. The blood of the lamb makes me holy in God's site. I am being sanctified by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within me.

3. Review John Chapter 15. In John 15 Jesus taught us about remaining in Him (the Vine) for apart from Him we can do nothing. How does this fit in with what we have learned about being called to belong and become?

We are called to be in Christ. Remaining in Christ is what is required to be used by God. We are not our own and not called to go on our own.

4. Why is it not a good thing to do something for the Lord (and the Church) without really knowing and living and believing that you belong to Him?

We can work without Christ as our reason but our work is in vane. When we work to please man or ourselves our work is in vain. But when we work to please the Lord our work is blessed and He gets the glory. Our life is for the basic purpose of bringing glory to God.

5. When we accept our call to serve we are indentifying ourselves as belonging to Jesus and being made new in Him. How is serving a natural part of the Christian life and a truly a part of our worship to Him?

Jesus set he example of a servant's heart. To follow after Jesus is to be a humble servant who desires to please God in every way and gives all honor and glory to Him.

Daily Reading Plan: This week we are reading how people of the Bible have been called to belong and become men of God and to serve the Lord in mighty ways. **As you read these verses, journal your notes to yourself about what you learn on how God calls us.**

Day 1: Abraham – Genesis 12:1-7

(From Abraham's life I learn that God wants me to follow his lead one step at a time. He calls me and has a plan for me but I am not given every aspect up front. It requires faith in action.)

Day 2: Moses – Exodus 3

(From Moses I learn that God wants us to trust in Him alone. I may be worried about my own inadequacy like Moses but God wants me to trust in His power at work and not my own.)

Day 3: Samuel – 1 Samuel 3

(God wants our hearts dedicated to Him. From Samuel's life I see how a man dedicated to God and His word can bless God and be used to lead others.)

Day 4: David – 1 Samuel 16

(As I look at the tender young David I can see that God can use the weakest of people to become strong in Him. The simplest of talents, like playing the harp, can serve to advance God's plan.)

Day 5: Paul – Acts 9:1-31

(God can use even the worst of sinners. Paul was persecuting Christians and was far from Jesus but God never gave up on him and changed him and used him in a powerful way.)

Conclusion: Abraham was obedient and God used him. Moses was afraid and God used him. Samuel was dedicated and God used him. David was young and God used him. Paul was a sinner and God used him. I guess God can use me too.