

A place to:

belong

conversation series

PASTOR TERRY BROOKS



A place to:

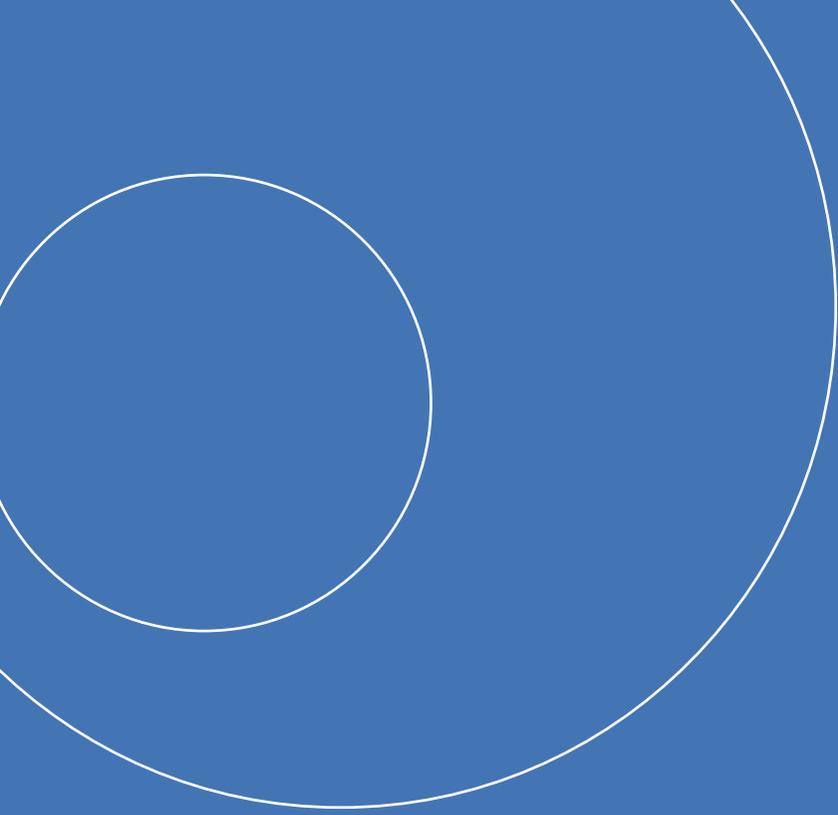
belong

**TERRY BROOKS**

LEAD PASTOR, BAYVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH



conversation series



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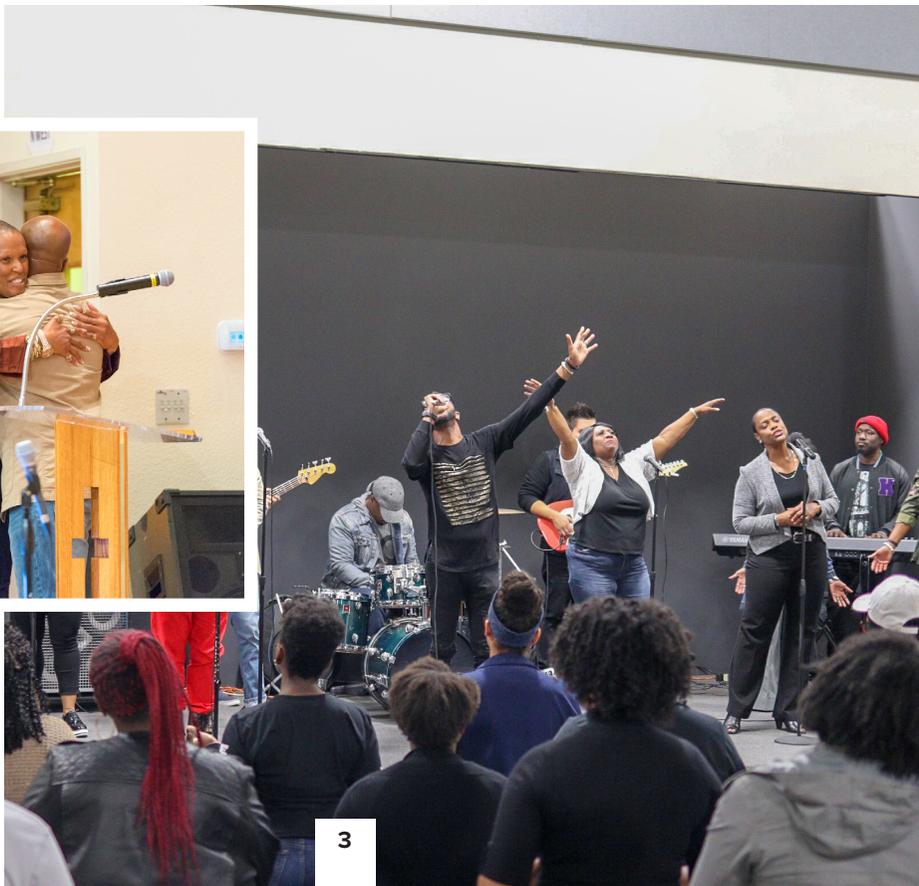
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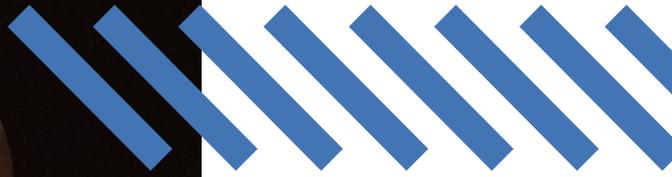
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welcome



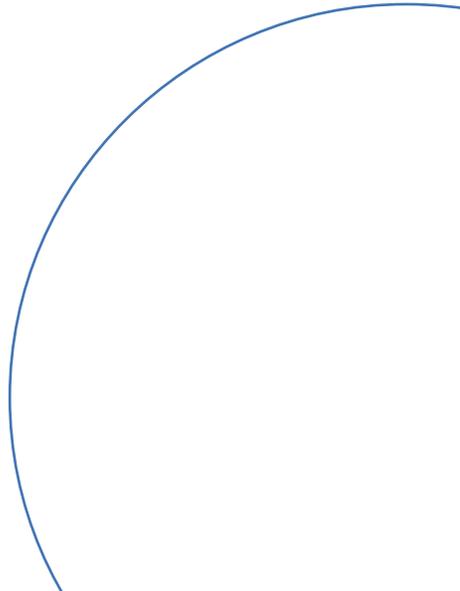
Here at Bayview Baptist we have a saying: Come As You Are! We really mean that and want to give you a warm welcome. No matter where you find yourself in life, you belong here.

The Bible Says in **1 Thessalonians 5:11**: “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” That’s what we want to do, encourage you and build you up on this journey of discovery. Through this time together there are three things we want you to discover: How We Belong to God, How We Belong To Community, and How We belong To His Purpose.

So whether you are new to Bayview Baptist or long-time family, we are praying for you. We believe that through this tool you will truly be encouraged, loved, and your life will be genuinely transformed!

## **TERRY BROOKS**

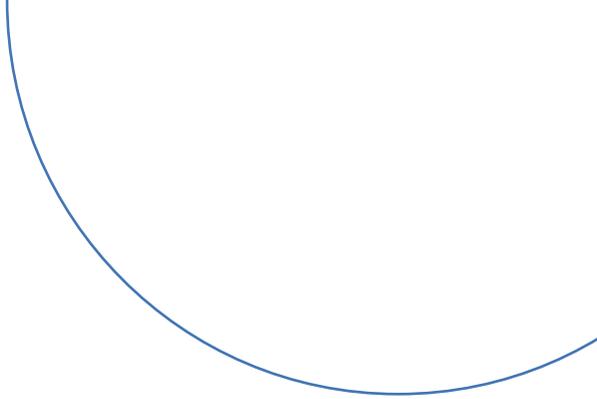
LEAD PASTOR, BAYVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH



# Using

THIS WORKBOOK



- 
1. Notice in the Table of Contents there are three sections: (1) Sessions; (2) Appendices; and (3) Small Group Hosts. Familiarize yourself with the Appendices. Some of them will be used in the sessions themselves.
  2. If you are hosting or co-hosting a small group, the section Small Group Hosts will give you tips for effective leadership, encourage you, and help you avoid a few common obstacles.
  3. Use this workbook as a guide. If the group responds to the lesson in an unexpected but honest way, go with that. If you think of a better question than the next one in the lesson, ask it. Take to heart the insights included in the Frequently Asked Questions pages and the Small Group Hosts section.
  4. Enjoy your Small Group experience.
  5. Pray before each session—for your group members, for your time together and for wisdom and insight.
  6. Read the Outline of Each Session on the next pages so you understand how the sessions will flow.



# outline

## OF EACH SESSION

A typical group session for the Belong study will include the following sections. Read through this to get a clear idea of how each group meeting will be structured:

**WEEKLY MEMORY VERSES.** Each session opens with a memory verse that emphasizes an important truth from the session. This is an optional exercise, but we believe memorizing scripture is a powerful way to grow spiritually. We encourage you to give this important habit a try. The verses for each session are also listed in the appendix.

**INTRODUCTION.** Each lesson opens with a brief thought that will help you prepare for the session and get you thinking about that week's topic. Make it a practice to read these before the session. You may want to have the group read them aloud.

**SHARE YOUR STORY.** The foundation for spiritual growth is an intimate connection with God and His family. You build that connection by sharing your story with a few people you really know. This section includes some simple questions to get you talking—letting you share as much or as little of your story as you choose.

**HEAR GOD'S STORY.** In this section, you'll read the Bible and listen to a teaching in order to hear God's story—and begin to see how His story aligns with yours. When the study directs you to, you'll watch a short teaching segment on video. You'll then have an opportunity to read a passage of scripture and discuss both the teaching and the text. The goal isn't to accumulate information, but to apply the insights from scripture to your daily life.

**CREATE A NEW STORY.** In this section, you'll have an opportunity to go beyond Bible study to biblical living. This section will also have a question or two that will challenge you to live out your faith by serving others, sharing your faith, or worshiping God.

**DAILY DEVOTIONS.** Each week on the daily devotions pages, we provide scriptures to reflect on between sessions. This provides you with a chance to slow down, read just a small portion of scripture each day, and pray through it. You'll then have a chance to journal your thoughts about what you just read. Use this section to seek God on your own throughout the week. This time at home should begin and end with prayer. Don't get in a hurry; take enough time to hear from God and talk to him!



SESSION ONE

We  
Belong  
To God



See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

**1 John 3:1**

All of us want to belong. As children we want to be chosen for the team. As teenagers we want to be in the “right” crowd. At every age we want friends and family who love and accept us.

The Bible shares the amazing news that no matter who we are and no matter what we’ve done, we all have a place to belong with God. He loves all of us as His children!





# Leaders notes

If your group is new, welcome newcomers. Introduce everyone—you may even want to have name tags for your first meeting.

- Open your group with a brief prayer asking for insight as you study. You can pray for specific requests at the end of the meeting, or stop momentarily to pray if a particular situation comes up during your discussion.

# Share

## YOUR STORY

Begin your time together by using the following questions to get the conversation started.

- Take a few minutes for each person to share their spiritual story. Did you grow up in church, or did you start exploring faith as an adult?
- What are you hoping to get out of this group?



# watch

## THE VIDEO

Use the Notes space provided below to record your thoughts and questions as well as the things you want to remember or follow up on. After watching the video, have someone read the discussion questions in the Hear God's Story section and start the conversation.

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# Hear

GOD'S STORY





## Read Romans 8:14-17

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”

- What role do we have with God when we follow His Spirit?
- “Abba” means daddy. Jesus is saying that we not only belong to God, but He loves us the way a dad loves his kids. How does this affect your view of God and your relationship with Him?
- How are we heirs when we follow God? What blessings do we receive?



# create

A NEW STORY

In this section, talk about how you will apply the wisdom you've learned from the teaching. Then think about practical steps you can take in the coming week to live out what you've learned.

- What did God create us for? Why?
- What do you worship?
- Why does trusting God take courage?
- What's one way you need to step out in courage to follow God?

Give each person an opportunity to share prayer requests. If you'd like, you can write these on the Prayer and Praise Report on page 77.

Close your meeting with prayer.



# daily

## DEVOTIONS

### Day 1

#### **Galatians 3:26-27**

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

#### **Reflect:**

What does it mean to be “clothed” with Christ? How is this a metaphor for belonging?

### Day 2

#### **Ephesians 1:13-14**

When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

#### **Reflect:**

In ancient times, people marked things with seals to show ownership. Here, Paul is saying that we are marked by the Spirit. Take a few minutes today to thank God for this “guarantee” that you belong to Him!

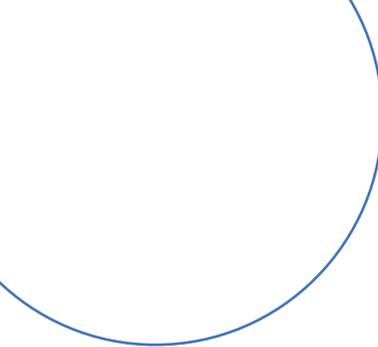
### Day 3

#### **Psalms 119:94**

Save me, for I am yours; I have sought out your precepts.

#### **Reflect:**

What does it mean to seek after God? How can you seek Him during this study?



## Day 4

### **Isaiah 43:1**

But now, this is what the Lord says— he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

### **Reflect:**

How does belonging to God lead us to live in peace instead of fear?

## Day 5

### **Psalm 100:3**

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.

### **Reflect:**

As we close this first week, take some time to reflect on what it means to be created by God. Thank Him for giving you life and loving you as part of His family!

## Day 6

Use the following space to reflect on what you learned this week and what God is saying to you.

SESSION TWO

We Belong  
In God's  
Family



God sets the lonely in families.

**Psalm 68:6**

You know that God describes himself as your Father, and you've probably heard other Christians referred to as your "brothers and sisters." Several places in the New Testament Jesus is even called our "older brother." God designed His church to be a family where we encourage each other, help each other become more like Jesus, and reflect His goodness to the world.

Yet so often we try to do life by ourselves, living as "Lone Ranger" Christians. When we live this way, we miss out on the relationships and growth that come from journeying through life together.

God created us to need each other, and we're stronger when we're not alone. Let's discover why our spiritual family is so important to our walk with God!



# Share

## YOUR STORY

Begin your time together by using the following questions to get the conversation started.

- Share a favorite memory about a time you felt connected to your family or share a family moment that has affected your life.
- What did you learn from your Daily Devotions this past week?





# watch

**THE VIDEO**

Use the Notes space provided below to record your thoughts and questions as well as the things you want to remember or follow up on. After watching the video, have someone read the discussion questions in the Hear God's Story section and start the conversation.

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# hear

GOD'S STORY





## Read Ephesians 2:19-22

<sup>19</sup> Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

- Verse 19 assures of the privileges we have when we become part of God's family. What does it mean to be a member of His "household"?
- How are the apostles and prophets the foundation of our faith?
- How does Jesus hold our spiritual family together?
- What is the dwelling mentioned in verse 22? How does God live in us?



# create

A NEW STORY

In this section, talk about how you will apply the wisdom you've learned from the teaching. Then think about practical steps you can take in the coming week to live out what you've learned.

- Respond to the idea that church isn't something we attend – it's something we're part of.
- How do our lives flourish when we invest in God and God's family?
- What are some ways you can make that investment?

Give each person an opportunity to share prayer requests. If you'd like, you can write these on the Prayer and Praise Report on page 77.

Close your meeting with prayer.



Over Eighty 8

# daily

## DEVOTIONS

### Day 1

#### **Romans 12:4-5**

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

#### **Reflect:**

What does it mean for God's family to be one body? How do each of us play a part in this body?

### Day 2

#### **John 13:34**

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

#### **Reflect:**

So simple, and yet sometimes so challenging! How are we called to love each other in God's family? How can you grow in love for other believers?

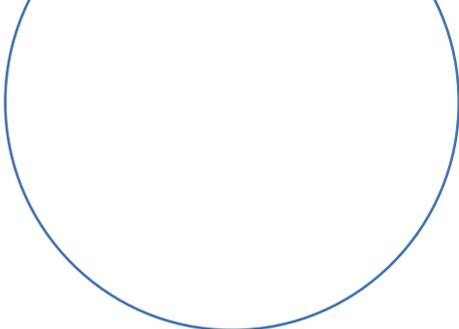
### Day 3

#### **1 Corinthians 1:9**

God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Reflect:**

As members of God's family, we are in fellowship with Jesus and with each other. What a gift God has given us in His church!



## Day 4

### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

#### **Reflect:**

Remember, we do not attend church – we are the church. Why is it so important to gather together as God’s family? How can you spur others on when we are together?

## Day 5

### **Galatians 6:10**

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

#### **Reflect:**

What are some ways you can do good to those in our family this week?

## Day 6

Use the following space to reflect on what you learned this week and what God is saying to you.

## SESSION THREE

# We Belong In Community



Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,  
just as in fact you are doing.

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**

There are dozens of “one another” passages in the New Testament. Many of them are instructions to Christians to be unified, to be patient, to show love, and to serve each other. Obviously the early church leaders were very concerned about how Christians lived out their faith and built up the spiritual community.

These passages are still important today- we are still called to treat one another with love, humility, patience, and compassion. Today we’ll discuss the commands Jesus gave for our relationships and discover how living and loving in relationship can show Him to the world.

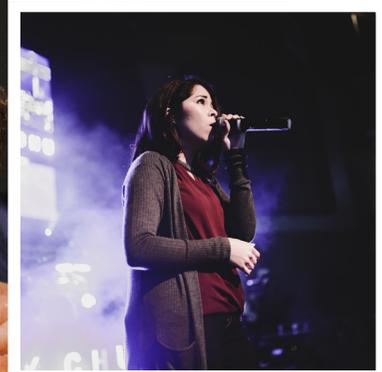


# Share

## YOUR STORY

Begin your time together by using the following questions to get the conversation started.

- Have you ever been part of a team that worked really well together? What was that experience like? What made the team successful?
- What did you learn from your Daily Devotions this past week?









# hear

GOD'S STORY





## Read Matthew 22:34-40

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

- Some Pharisees believed there were more important and less important laws—that not all of God’s instructions carried equal weight. So they may have been asking this question to see if Jesus agreed with them. How might His answer have surprised them?
- What does it mean to love God with your mind? With your heart? With your soul?
- How do these two commands sum up the entire teaching of the Bible?



# create

A NEW STORY

In this section, talk about how you will apply the wisdom you've learned from the teaching. Then think about practical steps you can take in the coming week to live out what you've learned.

- Why are relationships the most important thing in life?
- What habits and activities lead to isolation? Which ones lead to relationship?
- What would it mean for you to take a risk to step out and be intentional about building relationships? What is a next step you can take?

Give each person an opportunity to share prayer requests. If you'd like, you can write these on the Prayer and Praise Report on page 77.

Close your meeting with prayer.



# daily

## DEVOTIONS

### Day 1

#### **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

#### **Reflect:**

What struggles have you gone through? How can you use that to comfort someone else?

### Day 2

#### **Romans 15:7**

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

#### **Respond:**

What are some ways Christ accepted you? How can you show that same acceptance to others?

### Day 3

#### **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work; if one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

#### **Respond:**

Have you ever “fallen” and needed a friend’s help? How could you be that friend to someone else? Ask God for opportunities to love other people this way.

## Day 4

### **Philippians 2:1-2**

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

### **Respond:**

What does it mean to be “like-minded”? Does it mean people always have to agree? How does the rest of the verse explain this command?

## Day 5

### **Psalms 133:1**

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

### **Reflect:**

What are some ways Christian brothers and sisters can work toward unity? Why does this bring such glory to God?

## Day 6

Use the following space to reflect on what you learned this week and what God is saying to you.

SESSION FOUR

We Belong  
For A  
Purpose



We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

**Romans 12:6**

Over the last few weeks we've talked about what it means to belong to God, to his family, and to each other as a spiritual community. But it's important to remember that we don't belong in God's family only for our own benefit, or even for the good of other believers. We also belong because we have a mission to fulfill. Today we'll close this study by exploring what it means to be called by God, how we can discover our purpose, and how we can help others pursue their own calling.



# Share

## YOUR STORY

Begin your time together by using the following questions to get the conversation started.

- What has surprised you most about this group? Where did God meet you over the last four weeks?
- What did you learn from your Daily Devotions this past week?





# watch

THE VIDEO

Use the Notes space provided below to record your thoughts and questions as well as the things you want to remember or follow up on. After watching the video, have someone read the discussion questions in the Hear God's Story section and start the conversation.

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# hear

GOD'S STORY





## Read Ephesians 2:4-10

<sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- What is one reason God has shown us mercy and grace? (verse 7)
- Why is it so important that we are saved by grace, not through anything we have done?
- List some of the things this passage teaches us about who we are in Christ; for example, we are greatly loved and we are alive with Christ (verses 4-5). How do these truths give us a purpose?
- Why does God prepare good works for us to do?



# create

A NEW STORY

In this section, talk about how you will apply the wisdom you've learned from the teaching. Then think about practical steps you can take in the coming week to live out what you've learned.

- How do we add value to others when we live out our purpose?
- Why do we enjoy life more when we're living out our purpose?
- What are some ways God has gifted you? How can your experiences and your story bring hope to others?
- What is God calling you to? How is he calling you to obey?

Give each person an opportunity to share prayer requests. If you'd like, you can write these on the Prayer and Praise Report on page 77.

Close your meeting with prayer.



# daily

## DEVOTIONS

### Day 1

#### **Romans 5:8**

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### **Reflect:**

Understanding our purpose begins with understanding our need for God—and His great love that rescues us. Spend a few minutes thinking about God's love and thanking Him for the purpose He has for your life.

### Day 2

#### **1 Peter 2:9-10**

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

#### **Reflect:**

This passage tells us several things about our identity and calling. Which one is especially meaningful or significant to you?

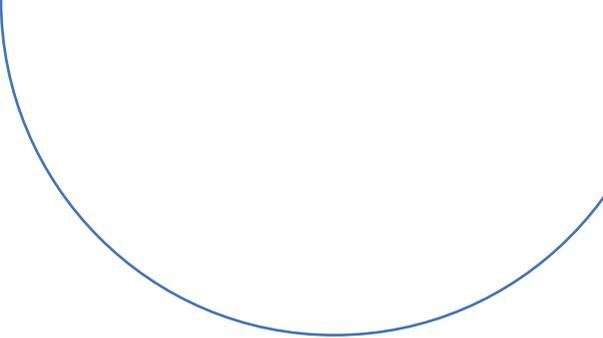
### Day 3

#### **Matthew 6:33**

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

#### **Reflect:**

When we begin by seeking after God, we remember that our lives are about Him and not ourselves. How can you seek His kingdom and righteousness today?



## Day 4

### **Psalm 139:16**

Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

#### **Reflect:**

God knows you, He created you, and He has work for you to accomplish!

## Day 5

### **Isaiah 12:5**

Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

#### **Reflect:**

Ultimately our purpose is to make the Lord known with our life. Spend some time praying about how God can use you to share His good news with others.

## Day 6

Use the following space to write any thoughts God has put in your heart and mind about the things we have looked at in this session and during your Daily Devotions time this week.



Amen



# frequently

## ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What do we do on the first night of our group?**

Like all fun things in life—have a party! A “get to know you” coffee, dinner, or dessert is a great way to launch a new study. You may want to review the Small Group Agreement (page 64) and share the names of a few friends you can invite to join you. But most importantly, have fun before your study time begins.

### **Can we do this study on our own?**

Absolutely! This may sound crazy, but one of the best ways to do this study is not with a full house but with a few friends. You may choose to gather with another couple or a few friends who would enjoy going out for dinner and then walking through this study.

### **What if this group is not working for me?**

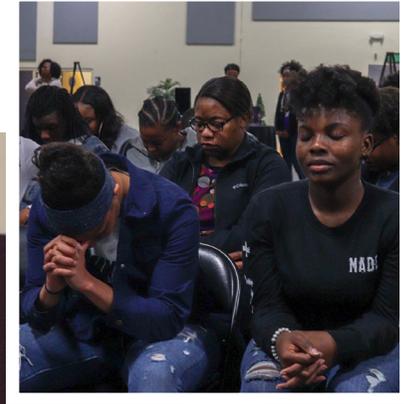
You’re not alone! This could be the result of a personality conflict, life stage difference, geographical distance, level of spiritual maturity, or any number of things. Relax. Pray for God’s direction, and at the end of this study, decide whether to continue with this group or find another. However, don’t bail out before the four weeks are up—God might have something to teach you. Also, don’t run from conflict or prejudice people before you have given them a chance. God is still working in your life, too!

### **Who is the leader?**

Most groups have an official leader. But ideally, the group will mature and members will rotate the leadership of meetings. Healthy groups often rotate hosts and leaders on a regular basis. This model ensures that all members grow, give their unique contribution, and develop their gifts.

### **How do we handle the childcare needs in our group?**

Very carefully. Seriously, this can be a sensitive issue. We suggest that you empower the group to openly brainstorm solutions. You may try one option that works for a while and then adjust over time. One approach is for adults to meet in the living room or dining room and to share the cost of a babysitter (or two) who can watch the kids in a different part of the house. This way, parents don't have to be away from their children all evening when their children are too young to be left at home. A second option is to use one home for the kids and a second home (close by or a phone call away) for the adults. A third idea is to rotate the responsibility of providing a lesson or caring for the children. This can be an incredible blessing for kids. Finally, the most common solution is to decide that you need to have a night to invest in your spiritual lives individually or as a couple and to make your own arrangements for childcare. No matter what decision the group makes, the best approach is to dialogue openly about both the problem and the solution.





# GROUP AGREEMENT

## **OUR PURPOSE**

To provide an environment where participants experience authentic community and spiritual growth.

## **OUR VALUES**

### **Group Attendance**

To give priority to the group meeting. We will call or email if we will be late or absent. (Completing the Group Calendar on page 66 will minimize this issue.)

### **Safe Environment**

To create a safe place where people can be heard and feel loved. (Please, no quick answers, snap judgments, or simple fixes.)

### **Respect Differences**

To be gentle and gracious to fellow group members with different spiritual maturity, personal opinions, temperaments, or “imperfections.” We are all works in progress.

### **Confidentiality**

To keep anything that is shared strictly confidential and within the group, and to avoid sharing improper information about those outside the group.

### **Encouragement for Growth**

To be not just takers but givers of life. We want to spiritually multiply our life by serving others with our God-given gifts.

**Shared Ownership**

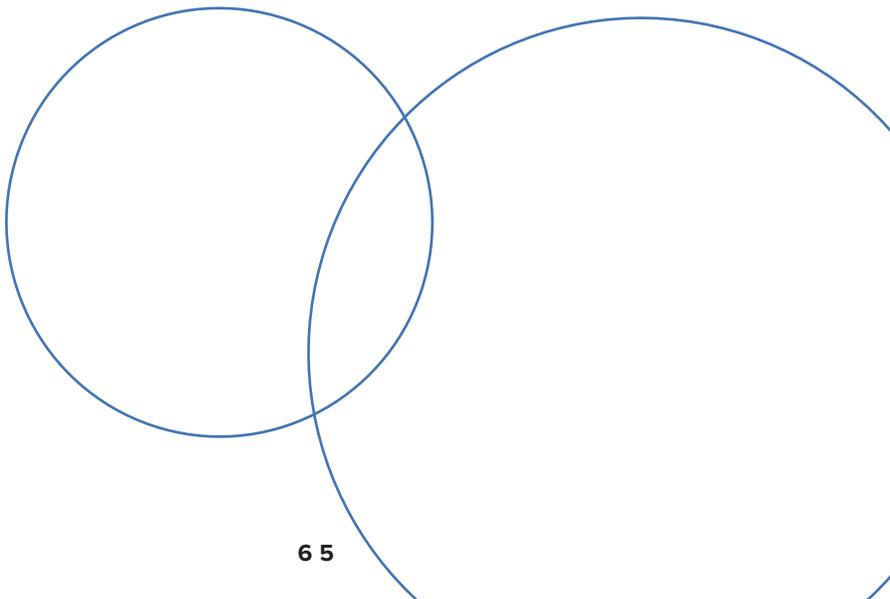
To remember that every member is a minister and to ensure that each attendee will share a small team role or responsibility over time.

**Rotating Hosts/Leaders and Homes**

To encourage different people to host the group in their homes and to rotate the responsibility of facilitating each meeting. (See the Group Calendar on page 66).

**OUR REMINDERS**

- Refreshments/mealtimes .....
- Childcare .....
- When we will meet (day of week) .....
- Where we will meet (place) .....
- We will begin at (time) ..... and end at .....
- We will do our best to have some or all of us attend a worship service together. Our primary worship service time will be .....
- Date of this agreement .....
- Date we will review this agreement again .....
- Who (other than the host) will review this agreement?  
.....





**CLIP & REVIEW  
THE MEMORY  
VERSES ON THE  
OTHER SIDE OF  
THIS PAGE.**

The word "clip" is written in a white, cursive, handwritten style on a black rectangular background. The letters are connected and have a slightly textured, chalk-like appearance. The word is positioned on the right side of the page, enclosed within a dashed white border.

# One

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

**1 John 3:1**

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# Two

God sets the lonely in families.

**Psalm 68:6**

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# Three

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**

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# Four

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

**Romans 12:6**





# Small Gro

# up Leaders



# hosting

## AN OPEN HOUSE

If you're starting a new group, try planning an "open house" before your first formal group meeting. Even if you have only two to four core members, it's a great way to break the ice and to consider prayerfully who else might be open to joining you over the next few weeks. You can also use this kick-off meeting to hand out study guides, spend some time getting to know each other, discuss each person's expectations for the group and briefly pray for each other. A simple meal or good dessert always make a kick-off meeting more fun.

After people introduce themselves, have everyone respond to a few icebreaker questions:

- What is your favorite family vacation?
- What is one thing you love about your church/your community?
- What are three things about your life growing up that most people here don't know?

Next, ask everyone to tell what he or she hopes to get out of the study. You might want to review the Small Group Agreement and talk about each person's expectations and priorities.

Finally, set an open chair (maybe two) in the center of your group and explain that it represents someone who would enjoy or benefit from this group but who isn't here yet. Ask people to pray about inviting someone to join the group over the next few weeks. Hand out postcards and have everyone write an invitation or two. Don't worry about ending up with too many people; you can always have one discussion circle in the living room and another in the dining room after

you watch the lesson. Each group could then report prayer requests and progress at the end of the session.

You can skip this kick-off meeting if your time is limited, but you'll experience a huge benefit if you take the time to connect with each other in this way.



# hosting

FOR THE  
FIRST TIME

## **Sweaty palms are a healthy sign.**

The Bible says God is gracious to the humble. Remember who is in control. The time to worry is when you're not worried. Those who are soft in heart (and sweaty-palmed) are those whom God is sure to speak through.

## **Seek support.**

Ask your host, co-host, or close friend to pray for you and prepare with you before the session. Walking through the study will help you anticipate potentially difficult questions and discussion topics.

## **Bring your uniqueness to the study.**

Lean into who you are and how God wants you to uniquely lead the study.

## **Prepare. Go through the session material.**

If you are using the video, listen to the teaching segment. Don't wait until the last minute to prepare.

## **Be time conscious.**

Everyone leads busy lives. One of the greatest ways you can value people is by placing value on their time. Therefore, you will want to be certain you are beginning on time and concluding on time. Be aware of the clock throughout the group session.

## **Ask for feedback so you can grow.**

Perhaps in an email or on cards handed out at the study, have everyone

write down three things you did well and one thing you could improve on. Demonstrate an openness to learn and grow.

**Prayerfully consider launching a new group.**

This doesn't need to happen overnight, but keep growth as a goal. Not all Christians are called to be leaders or teachers, but we are all called to be "shepherds" of a few someday.

**Share with your group what God is doing in your heart.**

God is searching for those whose hearts are fully His. Share your trials and victories. We promise that people will relate.



# Prayer

## AND PRAISE REPORT

PRAYER REQUEST	PRAISE REPORT
SESSION 1	
SESSION 2	
SESSION 3	
SESSION 4	







# A place to: *belong*

## Deep in the heart of every person is the longing to belong.

That is a God-given desire and that is a part of your unique design and ultimate destiny. God has a spiritual family, a circle of friends, and a faith community to help you fulfill his purpose for your life. Here is your chance to simply GRAB the materials, GATHER with a friend, family member, coworker or somebody you met at Church and start GROWING together. Finding your place to BELONG and creating a safe place for others to do the same is only a step away!



*Terry Brooks*

LEAD PASTOR, BAYVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Terry Wayne Brooks, affectionately known as “Pastor T,” was born the youngest of six siblings in Little Rock, Arkansas to Reverend (late) and Mrs. Cato Brooks, Jr. Pastor T was licensed to preach on August 17, 1980 and ordained on June 17, 1990. In 2008, he graduated from Faith Evangelical Seminary in Tacoma, Washington with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion, following his two-year attendance at Baptist Bible College in Indianapolis, IN. In October 2013, he received his Master of Theological Studies with a New Testament concentration. Pastor Brooks served as Senior Pastor for several churches before being called on July 1, 2013 to become the third Senior Pastor of Bayview Baptist

Church of San Diego, CA, where he previously served as Minister of Christian Education and Executive Pastor. Pastor T is a renowned theological preacher, teacher and lecturer for youth and adults and has become one of the most sought-after ministers throughout the nation. He also serves as an administrator and spiritual advisor for Young Saints, which is an affiliate of Charisma Music Group. He is Spiritual Overseer of national recording artist Malcolm Williams and Great Faith. Nonetheless, to all his duties as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he is also a loving and caring husband to his wife Monique and a committed and devoted father to sons Jordan and Amarion.

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