

04/07/2024 "Belonging: The Search for Connection"

- 1. What stood out to you most from Sunday's message? Why?
- 2. There are often parts of the Bible that we are least familiar with or don't find interesting. Is there a part of the Bible that falls into that category for you? Why?
- 3. If you have one, what is your favorite book or part of the bible? Why?
- 4. What do you think is the purpose of the Bible, what is it for? Or for what reason to want to understand it better?
- 5. Read Matthew 5:43-48. What comes to your mind when you hear this verse?
- 6. This word "perfect" comes up again in Matthew 19:16-22 as it concerns caring for others. How does Jesus' command in these verses impact others who are often left out?
- 7. Read 1 John 4:15-21. Here the word perfect is also translated "complete" in the NIV. It is translated "mature" and "reached its goal" in other translations. How do these various translations shed light on the meaning of this word?
- 8. How does welcoming others in and extending the love of Jesus relate to this idea of complete, mature or perfect in 1 John 4:15-21?
- 9. Throughout the Bible, God is consistently drawing others in—often times the vulnerable and less than. What are some ways that we can welcome others in, both the righteous and the unrighteous?
- 10. How do you feel challenged to apply this week's message and these passages? Is there something in them that was challenging for you?