

Community Group Discussion Questions

“You Belong Here - Part 2 ” Luke 3:21-22, Matt 3:15-17 July 13, 2019

Getting Started

Our performance for God does not determine our place with God.

As a result of bad teaching, confusion, and traditions/beliefs handed down from others, many Christians struggle with finding peace and security in their relationship with God. They wonder if they have done enough, are good enough, or will ever be right with God. Today’s message helps us see that performance is not the issue. What matters is where we stand with God. **Share with us what you were taught to believe about the security of your relationship with God.**

Going Deeper:

1. **A Divine Interruption:** *“and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”* Matthew 3:17
 1. Purpose of Confirmation:
 1. Vocalization deemed Authentication: *“and behold, a voice”*
 2. Location determined Validation: *“from heaven”*
 2. Point of Clarification:
 1. Personal Possessive: *“This is my”*
 2. Pure Promise: *“beloved”*
 3. Paternal Perspective: *“Son”*

At the time this pronouncement was made, the people of Israel had been waiting 400 years for God to speak to them again. His last words had come through the prophet Malachi, the last book in the Old Testament. They wanted to hear from God, and His first words pointed to a Person, His Son Jesus. **As you think about what you know from the Bible, how many places/verse can you think of that point to Jesus as being someone special?**

3. Profession of Commendation:

1. Continual Acceptance: *“with whom I am”*
2. Constant Approval: *“well pleased”*

Jesus wasn't just someone special, He was God's Son. Have you ever wondered what Jesus did to earn this praise? He had not even started His ministry yet, so it couldn't be anything related to His performance. It must have been just the fact that He was God's Son. **Is it possible to be well pleased with someone who has done nothing to earn it? How has God done this for you? (See Romans 5:8). How can you do this for others?**

Transition: We are “fellow heirs with Christ” and “seated us with Him in the heavenly places” (Read Romans 8:17, Ephesians 2:6)

We started by talking about how many people live in doubt, fear or uncertainty about their standing with God. These verses should permanently erase those fears. Everything Christ did (dying and rising again), we did with Him. When He was seated in heavenly places, we were too. To belong to Christ means that you are in Him and have security of your salvation and relationship with Him.

1. **A Daily Introspection:** *“a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Luke 3:22*
 1. Pursued By God:
 1. Recognize His Voice: *“a voice”*
 2. Regard His Voice: *“came from heaven”*

How do you listen for the voice of God to speak to you?

2. Prized By God:
 1. Claims you for Himself: *“You are my”*
 2. Cherishes you: *“beloved”*
 3. Changes your status: *“Son”*

How does it feel to know that you have been adopted by God through your faith in Jesus as Savior?

3. Pleasing to God:

1. Positional Righteousness: “*with you I am well*”
2. Progressive Holiness: “*pleased*”

The moment you trust Jesus as your Savior, you are declared righteous (in a right standing) with God. He doesn't see your sin anymore. But you still sin, and as you grow in your faith and trust in God's goodness, you begin to trust more and more in Him. As you learn the Bible, you begin to submit to His leading in your life and you start to obey Him, think like Him, and love like Him. This is what we call progressive holiness, or becoming like Jesus. How have you seen God change you from when you first became a Christian?

Catching up on Listener Guide Notes:

6/29/19- Point # 3: The Importance of your Belonging!

6/29/19-TAKE AWAY: Allow the reverberation of what has been spoken over Jesus not to just be a faint echo to you, but a foundational truth for you.

7/6/19- Point # 4: The Statement Defined!

7/6/19-TAKE AWAY: Never forget you have been embraced by the Father, therefore, never be embarrassed of the Father for the Father is not embarrassed of you, and now go engage the world on behalf of the Father!

Prayer: