**Series: You Belong April 22, 2018**

**Message: Removing Barriers**

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**As humans we long to belong.**

**What are we belonging to? How do I belong?**

Acts 15:6-11 | Romans 10:9-10 | Romans 12:1-2

**Jesus invites you to belong.**

Matthew 11:28-30 | John 7:37-39 | Isaiah 55:1-3 | Revelation 22:17

**Our Passion: Removing barriers between people and Jesus.**

Acts 1:8 | Acts 15:10-11 | Luke 11:45-52 | Acts 15:23 | Matthew 19:13-14

**Life Group Study**

For week of April 22, 2018

*Welcome to the Spring Session of Life Groups! Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus and His church by joining one today!* ***www.seekreallife.com/groups***

**Share your story**

What insight, question, or resolution did you discover from our time of worship together on Sunday?

Have you ever longed to belong to something and had to overcome barriers along the journey?

What is the biggest obstacle you’ve faced in your relationship with Jesus? How did you overcome this barrier or are you still experiencing it?

What are a few things we can do as a church to help remove barriers between people and Jesus?

**Connect to God’s Story**

**Read Mark 2:13-17.**

Who is Jesus calling? Why does He make this comparison?

Have you ever written someone off because you see them as scum? What is Jesus’ position toward the self-righteous?

**Read Romans 12:2-3.**

What does God want to change in us? Why is this necessary and what will we learn if we let God do this work in us?

Why do you think it’s tempting to think of ourselves as better than we are? How can an honest evaluation of ourselves help us in our relationships with each other?

**Read Luke 11:46 & 52.**

Do these religious leaders and teachers have an honest evaluation of themselves? What does Jesus say about placing barriers between people and God?

*A life with Jesus is one of constant renewing and transformation as He makes us into people that are more and more like Jesus.*

Let the following questions guide your conversation with the Lord:

• What barriers do you want to remove that have come between us?

• What barriers are you revealing to me to remove that I’m placing in

the life of another?

“For this is how God loved the world:

He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone

who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world,

but to save the world through him.”

- John 3:16-17 (NLT)

**Together in prayer.**

As a church, let us come together in prayer.

* Pray for people who are losing faith, in God, people, freedom, peace, basic goodness.
* Pray for our city! For God to reveal Himself in transforming ways.
* Pray for every opportunity we are presented as a church to do good and show grace and mercy.
* Pray for the city planning meeting approval of proposed renovations of our new building.
* Pray for the one. May God draw each person into a living relationship with Himself.
* Pray for my next step in reaching the one I am praying for.
* Pray for boldness to reach our community with the love of Jesus.

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