



Order of Worship April 21, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Easter

## We Gather to Worship God

Welcome Worship in Song Call to Worship Worship in Song

## We Listen to the Word

Prayer Sermon Series: Belongers Sermon: "Newbies"

# We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration The Lord's Prayer We Eat and Drink Together We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song Prayer

# We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life/Gossiping the Good Stuff Doxology Blessing and Sending

> \*Words to music, responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen\*



For a complete list of ongoing ministries and upcoming events, please visit <u>tablelifechurch.org</u>.

#### Doggy Bag-

Some questions to chew on:

- 1. When was the last time you felt insecure because you were the new person? What things help you feel like you belong?
- 2. Who do you relate to more: the Jews, who grew up with a religious background, or the Gentiles, who grew up with little to no understanding of who God is? Why? Have you ever had difficulty relating to those who identify more with the other group? Explain.
- 3. As Belongers, why is it important to remember what it was like to be new?
- 4. Have you ever thought yourself to be more or less deserving than others in the Church because of your knowledge (or lack of knowledge), the time you have spent there, or what you have done? How do Paul's words in Ephesians 2 and 3 bring a new perspective?
- 5. How did Jesus embody being outward-focused? What are the characteristics of an outward-focused church? An outward-focused life?
- 6. Is there someone in your church, work, school, neighborhood, or group who is a newbie? What's something you can do to help them feel like they belong?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email *pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org* or call 717-774-6444

# Belongers "Newbies" Pastor Kris Beckert

When was a time in the recent past when you have been the new person?

## Backgrounds of the Believers in Ephesus:

- Those from a \_\_\_\_\_ background who knew the God of Abraham and were waiting for the messiah
- Those from a \_\_\_\_\_ background who didn't know the God of Abraham and weren't waiting for a messiah

## Helping Others Belong:

#### 1. Remember \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 2:11-13 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)—<sup>12</sup> remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

• There are over 40 total commands in Ephesians, but only \_\_\_\_ in chapters 1-3:

Remember being \_\_\_\_\_\_ from Christ, being without \_\_\_\_\_ and being without \_\_\_\_\_\_ (v.12)

#### 2. Realize \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 2:14-18 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup> by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup> He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

- \_\_\_\_\_ = reference to the temple boundary that kept Gentiles out
- In Christ, we are \_\_\_\_\_ newbies
- You belong living a \_\_\_\_\_ life (v.5)
- "peace" eiréné =

Ephesians 3:6 This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

#### 3. Look \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 3: 8-11 Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup> His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup> according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- \_\_\_\_\_ is an example to us
- He desired to share the good news of Jesus
  with \_\_\_\_\_

Big Idea: \_\_\_\_\_