

## Belong Workbook

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Belong! We're so glad you're here as we embark on this journey together. **Belong** is designed to help you explore what it means to be part of the Church, both globally and here at The Chapel. Over the next three weeks, we'll take a deeper look into who we are as a Church, how you can find your place within the body of Christ, and how we can live on mission together.

At The Chapel, our mission is simple yet profound: *Ensuring every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to hear and see the Gospel of Jesus Christ.* This mission shapes everything we do. We believe that every follower of Christ has a unique role in fulfilling this mission, and these classes are designed to help you understand how you can live it out.

This workbook is your companion throughout this journey. It includes teaching notes, discussion questions, reflection prompts, and practical next steps. Use it to capture what God is teaching you and how He is calling you to respond.

As you move through this content, we encourage you to fully engage in the discussions and activities. Ask questions, share your thoughts, and take the time to reflect. Our hope is that by the end of this journey, you'll not only feel a deeper connection to The Chapel but also a clearer understanding of your place in God's mission.

### How to Use This Workbook

- **Watch the Videos:** Start each week by watching the video that introduces the weekly theme.
- **Write and Reflect:** Use the reflection prompts to journal your thoughts and insights.
- **Engage with Activities:** Each activity is designed to help you apply what you're learning.
- **Week-to-Week Connection:** Each week builds on the last, so as you complete each section, reflect on how the themes interconnect, creating a holistic picture of what it means to know God, grow in Christ-likeness, and belong at The Chapel.

*At the end of each session, you'll fill out a completion form. Your facilitator will provide you with the link to the form. This form will capture your attendance for the class, will be a forum to provide feedback, and most importantly, will be a time for you to reflect on class content.*

Lastly, if you haven't already, we invite you to download the [Church Center App](#). Through this app, you'll be able to communicate with your Belong cohort, and better connect with all that's happening at The Chapel.

Let's begin!

**WEEK 1: WHO WE ARE**

### **Overview**

This session explores the mission, vision, and values of The Chapel, rooted in the Gospel and God's call for the Church. We'll examine the history of The Chapel, its statement of faith, and its structure and governance, providing a foundation for understanding our identity as a local church. Together, we'll reflect on how the gospel shapes our mission to ensure every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to hear and see the gospel of Jesus Christ.

### **Opening Questions**

*Before we begin, process your thoughts and feelings as you embark on this course. Discuss the following with questions with those around you.*

*What drew you to attending *Belong*?*

*What drew you to *The Chapel*, and what has been the most meaningful part of your experience so far?*

*When you think about the Church as a whole, what comes to mind about its purpose and mission?*

## Teaching

*What excites you most about being part of a church community?*

### **Section 1: Church History**

The Chapel's story began in 1961 with a small group of believers committed to saturating their community with the Gospel. Over the decades, The Chapel has grown into a multi-campus church with a clear mission to ensure that every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to hear and see the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Today, The Chapel continues to expand its impact through geographic intentionality, community outreach, church planting, and partnerships.

#### **Key Points:**

- Founding Vision (1961):
  - Established as the Metropolitan Chapel of Buffalo by a committed group of believers.
  - The founding mission focused on gospel saturation and disciple-making in their community.
- Growth and Expansion (1990s - current):
  - Transitioned into The Chapel with an emphasis on regional outreach.
  - Relocated to the CrossPoint campus in Getzville to better serve Western New York.
  - Expanded to multiple campuses to effectively reach more people across the region.
- Current Mission:
  - Operates as one church in four locations, united under a single mission: gospel saturation.
  - Values geographic intentionality, with campuses serving specific communities while advancing the same vision.
  - Beyond Sunday services, The Chapel engages in community outreach, church planting, leadership development, and strategic partnerships to make a lasting impact.
- Your Role:
  - Every member of The Chapel contributes to the mission of gospel saturation in Western New York and beyond.
  - As part of this growing story, you are invited to play a vital role in helping others encounter the Gospel and experience its life-changing power.

## Section 2: The Gospel and its Influence on Mission

The gospel is the foundation of The Chapel's identity, mission, and vision. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the gospel reveals God's grace, reconciling humanity to Him and transforming every aspect of life. This good news drives The Chapel's efforts to create disciples who live out the truth of the gospel, impacting their homes, communities, and the world.

### **Key Points:**

- The Gospel's Message:
  - The Gospel proclaims reconciliation with God through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
  - It is a message of grace, emphasizing God's love and forgiveness rather than human works.
  - This truth shapes every aspect of The Chapel's mission and vision.
- Mission and Gospel Saturation:
  - The Gospel provides the "why" behind The Chapel's mission to ensure every man, woman, and child hears and sees the Gospel.
  - This mission aligns with God's desire that all people come to know Him (1 Timothy 2:3-4).
  - Gospel saturation goes beyond conversion, focusing on creating disciples who live out their faith and transform their environments.
- Gospel-Centered Ministry:
  - The Gospel is foundational for both unbelievers and believers, fostering ongoing growth.
  - It compels love for God and others, as seen in Matthew 22:37-39.
  - Every ministry effort—from community outreach to Sunday gatherings—reflects the holistic call of the Gospel to meet physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.
- Partnerships and Global Vision:
  - Through Kingdom Come, The Chapel collaborates with churches and ministries to advance the Gospel beyond local borders.
  - These partnerships mobilize resources and people to reach unreached areas and underserved populations.
  - The Gospel inspires The Chapel to fulfill the Great Commission, making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19-20).
- The Gospel's Central Role:
  - The Gospel is not merely a starting point but the foundation, fuel, and focus of The Chapel's mission.
  - It unites the church in purpose, transforms lives, and glorifies God as His love is shared with the world.

## DISCUSS

- *How does knowing the gospel influence how you interact with your family, coworkers, or neighbors?*
- *What specific opportunities do you have in your daily life to reflect Christ's love and share the Gospel?*
- *What steps can you take this week to intentionally live out the mission of gospel saturation in your life?*

### **Section 3: Our Beliefs and Values**

At The Chapel, our beliefs are grounded in God's Word and shape everything we do as a church. These beliefs, reflected in our statement of faith, provide the foundation for our mission of gospel saturation and our values as a local church. By exploring these core truths, we deepen our understanding of who God is, what He has done, and how we are called to live as His people.

#### **STATEMENTS OF BELIEF EXERCISE**

**Instructions:** *Review our Statement of Beliefs. Open your Bible, and for each statement, identify at least one Scripture reference that supports it. Note the scripture reference in your workbook.*

#### **Statement of Beliefs**

##### **BIBLE**

We believe the Bible (both Old and New Testaments) is God's Word to us. Although written through human authors, the Holy Spirit supernaturally guided its writing. The Bible is inspired by God, which literally means that the Scripture is God-breathed. It is free of error in its original writings and is our final authority in all areas of life.

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

##### **GOD**

We believe in the one true God. God has eternally existed in three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Spirit. They are three, and yet one; distinct, and yet the same. This mysterious union of co-equal persons is what we call the Trinity.

- **Father:** He is the creator and ruler of everything. Before the world was created, the Father planned to send his Son, Jesus, to redeem mankind. God is all-knowing, so nothing that happens surprises him; in fact, everything in human history works together to accomplish his good plan for the world.



- Son: Jesus is God the Son. He is the Messiah (or, Christ) that was promised to Israel. Because Jesus is God, he is eternal. He came to earth, was supernaturally conceived through the Holy Spirit, and born through Mary, who was a virgin. He lived a sinless life but was crucified according to God’s plan of redemption. Jesus defeated death (the greatest enemy) by his bodily resurrection. Hundreds of people were eyewitnesses and saw Jesus alive. After this, he ascended into Heaven, where he exists in a glorified body. Jesus now acts as our advocate and intercedes for us with God the Father.
- Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is not just a force or a power, but the actual Spirit of God. He convicts the world of sin, leads us to right-living, and warns of impending judgment. He is a deposit in the life of every believer, guaranteeing our future inheritance – eternal life. The Spirit empowers the preaching, teaching, and understanding of the Gospel. We receive gifts from the Spirit that enable us to build up the body of believers and work towards the mission of God in our world.

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PEOPLE**

We believe that mankind was created in the image of God as male and female. The first man and woman (Adam and Eve) sinned, and as a result, they would experience physical death and spiritual death – which is separation from God. Since each human being is their descendant, we are all born with a sinful nature. Our natural inclination is to sin (for example, no one had to teach us how to lie), and we sin with our thoughts, our words, and our actions. This sin has severed our relationship with God, and unless it is dealt with, will result in eternal death and separation from him.

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SALVATION**

We believe that Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world. The death and wrath that Jesus experienced is what we rightly deserve because of sin, but he is our substitute. Everyone who puts their faith completely and totally in Jesus are declared, “Not Guilty,” by God because of Jesus’ sacrifice. Everyone who receives Jesus by faith experiences new life. The Bible refers to this as “a second birth” or as being “born again.” For all who do this, they become God’s children and receive eternal life.

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST THINGS**

We believe in the existence of a personal devil. He has several titles and names, all describing how wicked and rebellious he is: the deceiver, the accuser (the literal meaning of Satan), a liar from the beginning, and the Enemy of our souls. He seeks to destroy the lives and souls of people, just as he did in the beginning with Adam and Eve. God permits the Enemy to have a certain amount of power and

influence in the world, but it is limited. One day, God will judge Satan and all his demons, along with everyone who rejects Jesus. They will suffer because God will not shrug off their unrepentant wickedness. Their punishment is too terrible for words, but the Bible says they will eternally be punished in a lake of fire.

We believe that the blessed hope of believers is the imminent return and appearance of Jesus. We long to see him, because he is our Savior. After this, he will set up a Kingdom that will never be destroyed or overturned.

We believe in the future, bodily resurrection of all humanity. For those who belong to Jesus, they will live with God forever when Heaven is joined with a redeemed earth. For those who reject Jesus, they will be separated from God in Hell forever. In this final act of mercy, God gives them what they've always wanted: to be independent of him.

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **THE CHURCH**

We believe in the Church, which is made up of all believers in Jesus Christ throughout the world. The Bible refers to the Church as the Body and the Bride of Christ. We belong to him. Our mission is God's mission: to preach the Gospel of Jesus in the whole world, and announce that people can be reconciled to God.

We believe in the local church, which is one expression of the larger Body of believers. Those who belong to the local church have a responsibility to make an investment there with their time, skills, resources, and money.

We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper (Communion) are to be a regular and integral part of the local church. We baptize with immersion because it symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. We celebrate the Lord's Supper to remember Christ's sacrifice for us. The bread and the cup are the symbols of the new covenant, representing Jesus' body and blood.

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **REFLECT**

- How does grounding these beliefs in Scripture deepen your understanding of them?
- Which belief resonated with you most, and why?
- How can these truths shape the way you live out your faith daily?

## The Four Outcomes

At The Chapel, discipleship is about growing in Christlikeness and living on mission to reach every man, woman, and child with the Gospel. Four outcomes—intimacy with God, Christlike relationships, spiritual gifts, and grace story—serve as key markers of spiritual growth and alignment with the Church’s mission. These outcomes help us live out our faith authentically and make an impact for God’s kingdom.

Intimacy with God:

- A close, personal relationship with Jesus is essential to the Christian life.
- Grows through practices like prayer, Scripture reading, worship, and fellowship.
- Aligns our lives with God’s will and equips us to live missionally.

Christlike Relationships:

- Encourages authentic connections marked by love, forgiveness, encouragement, and accountability.
- Challenges us to reflect Christ in how we relate to people and steward our resources.
- Asks the question: *How would Jesus live my life if He were me?*

Spiritual Gifts:

- God uniquely equips every believer with gifts to serve the Church and advance the Gospel.
- These gifts are for building up the body of Christ, not personal benefit.
- Helps individuals contribute meaningfully to the Church’s mission and growth.

Grace Story:

- Every believer has a unique story of God’s transformative grace.
- Sharing these stories testifies to God’s love and power, encouraging others in their faith.
- Your grace story is a tool for pointing others to Christ and glorifying Him.

## **DISCUSS**

- *What practices have helped you deepen your personal relationship with God? How does prioritizing time with God change the way you approach your day-to-day life?*
- *What makes a relationship “Christlike”? How have you experienced this in your church community?*
- *Have you identified your spiritual gifts? What are some practical steps you can take to discover or better use your spiritual gifts?*
- *Have you shared your grace story with anyone? What was the experience like and how did it impact you and the other person?*

## Section 4: Structure and Governance

The Chapel's governance model reflects biblical principles of accountability, unity, and shared responsibility. It combines strong leadership with active congregational involvement to faithfully pursue the mission of reaching every man, woman, and child with the Gospel. This structure fosters transparency, collaboration, and a commitment to glorify God and serve the community.

### **Key Points:**

- Leadership Structure:
  - Overseers serve as a board providing spiritual and financial accountability, prayer, and encouragement to the pastoral staff.
  - Pastoral staff, including the Lead Pastor and campus pastors, shepherd the congregation and oversee ministry operations.
  - Deacons meet practical needs within the Church body, ensuring care and resources are distributed effectively.
- Congregational Involvement:
  - Members vote on key decisions, such as affirming board members.
  - Serve in ministry roles, reflecting the value of every believer's contribution to the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-27).
  - Support the Church's mission through time, skills, and financial resources.
- Purpose of Governance:
  - Ensures unity and accountability among leaders and members.
  - Empowers The Chapel to fulfill its mission of gospel saturation locally and beyond.



At the conclusion of class, please fill out this form: [thechapel.com/belongone](https://thechapel.com/belongone)

### **Teaching Notes**

*As you watch the video, use this page to take notes.*

### **Next Step**

*This week, take a next step to belonging at The Chapel.*

Are you currently in gospel-centered community? If not, let us help you find a community group!

Visit [thechapel.com/joinagroup](http://thechapel.com/joinagroup) and fill out the Community Group interest form.

### **Practice and Reflection**

*This week, take some time to practice what you've learned and to spend time in reflection.*

#### Daily Reading & Prayer Plan

Each day includes a short passage from Scripture, a reflection question to help engage with the text, and prayer prompt. As you prepare to engage the Scripture daily, consider the following steps:

1. Read - read the passage slowly - consider reading it 2-3 times, and reading it out loud at least once
2. Observe - ask questions of the text. Who wrote this text? Who are they writing to? What's happening? Where is this happening? When? Write down your observations.
3. Interpret - based off the observations you just made, what is the intended meaning of this text?
4. Apply - Consider how you should respond to what you've read. Answer the reflection prompt provided if that's helpful
5. Pray - thank God for what He's shown you, and pray to faithfully live it out. Use the provided prayer prompts to guide you.

#### **Day 1: Matthew 28:11-20**

- *Reflection Question: How does Jesus' command to go and make disciples impact the way you live out your faith and share it with others?*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- *Prayer: God, I pray for boldness and opportunities to share the Gospel with others. Thank you for your presence in my life. Give me guidance in fulfilling the Great Commission.*

## **Day 2: Matthew 22:34-46**

- *Reflection Question: How can you deepen your love for God and others in practical ways today?*

- *Prayer: God, help me to love you with my whole being, and to love others selflessly. I pray for opportunities to live out these commands in my relationships and daily actions.*

## **Day 3: 1 Timothy 3:1-13**

- *Reflection Question: How do these qualities of leadership challenge you in your own walk with God and in your role within the church community?*

- *Prayer: God, give me wisdom and strength to embody these qualities in my life. Raise up leaders in our church who reflect your character and who continue to grow in integrity and service.*

## **Day 4: Acts 2:29-47**

- *Reflection Question: How can you cultivate a deeper sense of community and devotion to God's Word, prayer, and fellowship with other believers?*

- *Prayer: Jesus, thank you for the gift of community in the church. I pray for a heart that is committed to growing in fellowship, prayer, and service, and for the church to continue growing in faith and love.*

#### **Day 5: Ephesians 2:1-22**

- *Reflection Question: How does the truth that Christ has brought you from death to life and reconciled you to God and others change the way you view your identity and relationships?*

- *Prayer: God, thank you for your grace and for reconciling me through Christ. I pray for a deeper understanding of my unity with others in the body of Christ. Help me to live out your grace and reconciliation in my relationships.*

#### **Day 6: Philippians 3:1-14**

- *Reflection Question: What are some things you might need to let go of in order to pursue Christ more fully?*

- *Prayer: God, help me to press on toward the goal of knowing you more deeply. I pray for the strength to let go of anything hindering my relationship with Christ and to focus on eternity.*

#### **Day 7: Matthew 24:36-44**

- *Reflection Question: How can you live today in a way that reflects your readiness for Christ's return?*

- *Prayer: God, I pray for a heart that is always prepared for Christ's return, living with urgency and faithfulness. Help me to stay watchful and focused on His purposes as you await His coming.*



**WEEK 2: YOUR PLACE HERE**

### **Overview**

Every believer is uniquely gifted to serve and contribute to the Church's mission of gospel saturation. This session emphasizes the importance of using our spiritual gifts, practicing stewardship, and engaging in Christlike community. By serving in the Church and fostering meaningful relationships, we align our lives with God's purposes and actively participate in building His Kingdom. Together, we find our place in the life and mission of The Chapel.

### **Opening Questions**

*Take a moment to reflect on this past week and today's theme and discuss the following with questions with those around you:*

*What did you learn last week? What did you learn through this week's practice and reflection activities?*

*How has being part of a church or small group impacted your faith journey so far? If you've never been part of a small group, what's held you back from joining one?*

*What unique gifts, skills, or passions do you feel God has given you to serve others?*

## Teaching

*What are some ways you've seen God use your gifts or passions to bless others?*

### Section 1: God Given Gifts

The Church exists to glorify God by making disciples who love God, love the Church, and love the world. Every believer has been uniquely equipped with spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit to serve the Church and fulfill this mission. These gifts are intentionally given to build up the body of Christ, glorify God, and share His love with the world.

#### **Key Points:**

- The Church is the body of Christ, called to equip believers for works of service and to build unity and maturity in faith (Ephesians 4:12-13).
- Spiritual gifts are empowered by the Holy Spirit for the common good, as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, Romans 12:6-8, and Ephesians 4:11-13.
- Discovering your gifts involves prayer, reflection, input from others, experimentation with serving, and tools like spiritual gifts assessments.
- Examples of spiritual gifts include teaching, serving, encouragement, leadership, and generosity, all contributing to the Church's mission.
- Using your gifts strengthens the Church, glorifies God, and allows you to experience joy as part of His mission.

#### **DISCUSS**

- *What gifts or passions has God given you?*
- *How might He be calling you to use them here at The Chapel?*

### Section 2: Connecting to our Church

Being part of The Chapel means more than attending services—it's about connection and community. Whether through serving, joining a community group, or participating in support groups, there are many ways to find your place and live out your faith. Connection is foundational to growing in Christ and contributing to the mission of ensuring every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to hear and see the Gospel.

### Key Points:

- Serving Opportunities: Engage in ministries like Kids/Students, Hospitality, Worship, Production, and care-focused teams like the Donation Hub, Go Team, or Congregational Care to live out your faith.
- Community Groups: Small gatherings for Bible discussion, prayer, life-sharing, and serving together, fostering encouragement, accountability, and Christlike relationships.
- Support Groups & Counseling: For those needing focused discipleship or healing, free biblical counseling and support groups are available as gospel-centered communities.
- Spiritual Growth through Connection: Serving and participating in groups helps build relationships, use spiritual gifts, and experience personal and spiritual growth.
- Next Steps: Visit the website, use The Chapel app, or talk to campus staff to explore groups and service opportunities. There's a place for everyone to belong and grow.

### REFLECT & DISCUSS

- *How could being part of a community group help you grow spiritually and connect more deeply with others?*
  
- *What is your next step to join a gospel-centered community?*

### DISCUSS

- *Where do your gifts and passions align with the needs of the Church?*
- *What area of service are you most drawn to?*

### **Section 3: Living out our Faith Through Generosity**

Stewardship is the biblical responsibility of managing everything we have—time, talents, and resources—as gifts from God, to be used for His glory and purposes. It's a lifestyle of trust, gratitude, and worship, aligning our lives with God's mission and investing in His kingdom. At The Chapel, stewardship includes financial giving, serving with our talents, and offering our time to advance the Gospel and make an eternal difference.

### Key Points:

- Everything we have belongs to God, and we are called to manage it faithfully for His purposes (Psalm 24:1).

- Giving reflects gratitude, trust in God’s provision, and joy as an act of worship (2 Corinthians 9:7).
- Practical options to give include text-to-give, in-person giving, Church Center app, or recurring gifts through the website.
- Stewardship also includes offering time (volunteering in ministries) and talents (using skills to serve others).
- Giving supports ministries like Chapel Kids, Chapel Students, Kingdom Come partnerships, impacts and fuels local, national and global partners, and supports church-wide resources to grow disciples and share the Gospel.
- Prayerfully consider how to use your time, talents, and resources as faithful stewards, aligning your life with God’s mission.

### **REFLECT & DISCUSS**

- *What does stewardship look like in your life right now?*
- *Are there areas where God is inviting you to trust Him more and give generously?*
- *Write down one specific way you can practice stewardship this week, whether through giving financially, serving, or meeting a need in your community.*

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### **DISCUSS**

- *How does generosity reflect God’s character, and what does it mean for you to live generously?*

### **Section 4: Church Conduct**

At The Chapel, membership is a commitment to living in a way that reflects Christ and fosters a healthy, holy Church community. Members are called to pursue personal holiness, unity, and love, recognizing that our conduct affects our relationship with God and the health of the Church. Unity, even amid

disagreement, is central to our shared mission, keeping Christ and the Gospel at the center of our relationships.

### **Key Points:**

- Members are encouraged to pursue holiness, which includes growth in spiritual disciplines and living out the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).
- Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:20-21), and members are called to prioritize Gospel-centered relationships, avoiding divisions over secondary issues.
- Handling Disagreements:
  - Listen with love and respect.
  - Approach conversations with humility.
  - Recognize whether the disagreement involves core Christian truths or secondary matters.
  - Speak honestly but gently, valuing the relationship over the issue.
  - Accept that it's okay to agree to disagree on non-essential matters.
- Unity doesn't mean uniformity; it means keeping Christ at the center, even when opinions differ.
- Our unity is a testimony to the love and truth of Jesus, demonstrating the transformative power of the Gospel.

### **DISCUSS**

- *Are there areas where you've allowed differences to create division? How can you contribute to unity in the Church this week?*

### **Pursuing holiness**

As members of The Chapel, we are called to pursue holiness and love, reflecting Christ's character in every aspect of our lives. Holiness is a continual journey of growing in Christlikeness, while love is the defining mark of a Christ-centered community. Restorative church discipline underscores the Church's commitment to accountability, care, and restoration, ensuring that sin is addressed in humility and love for the health of the individual and the Church body.

### **Key Points:**

- Holiness
  - Holiness involves every aspect of life, from thoughts to actions, as we strive to reflect Christ (Titus 2:11-14).
  - Biblical calls to holiness include unity (Romans 14-15), diligence (1 & 2 Thessalonians), and family relationships (Ephesians 5:22-6:4).
  - Holiness is not about perfection but about progress, as the Holy Spirit transforms us.
- Loving One Another

- Love is both a command and an identifying marker of the Church (John 13:34-35).
- Biblical love is patient, kind, and selfless, as described in 1 Corinthians 13.
- "One another" commands in Scripture, such as encouraging (1 Thessalonians 5:11) and forgiving (Colossians 3:13), guide how we live out love within the Church.
- Restorative Church Discipline
  - Discipline is a pathway to accountability, love, and restoration.
  - It aims to address sin in humility, safeguard the Church's health, and call individuals back to Christ.
  - Discipline is not about perfection, legalism, or ignoring serious matters but about fostering a culture of mutual accountability and grace.



At the conclusion of class, please fill out this form: [thechapel.com/belongtwo](https://thechapel.com/belongtwo)

## **Teaching Notes**

*As you watch the video, use this page to take notes.*



### **Next Step**

*This week, take a next step to belonging at The Chapel.*

As you reflect on your God-given gifts and passions, where can you joyfully serve in this season? Begin the process to serve at The Chapel.

Visit [thechapel.com/serve](http://thechapel.com/serve) and fill out the service interest form.

### **Practice and Reflection**

*This week, take some time to practice what you've learned and to spend time in reflection.*

#### Daily Reading & Prayer Plan

Each day includes a short passage from Scripture, a reflection question to help engage with the text, and prayer prompt. As you prepare to engage the Scripture daily, consider the following steps:

1. Read - read the passage slowly - consider reading it 2-3 times, and reading it out loud at least once
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3. Interpret - based off the observations you just made, what is the intended meaning of this text?
4. Apply - Consider how you should respond to what you've read. Answer the reflection prompt provided if that's helpful
5. Pray - thank God for what He's shown you, and pray to faithfully live it out. Use the provided prayer prompts to guide you.

#### **Day 1: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

- *Reflection Question: What role has God given you within the body of Christ, and how can you use your gifts to serve others this week?*
  
- *Prayer: God, thank you for making me a valuable part of your body. Please give me guidance in using the gifts you've given me to serve and encourage others.*

### **Day 2: Ephesians 4:1-16**

- *Reflection Question: How can you contribute to unity and growth within the church or your community this week?*

- *Prayer: God, give me humility, patience, and love as I interact with others in the body of Christ. Help me to use my gifts to build up the church and to strengthen the unity of your people.*

### **Day 3: 1 John 3:1-18**

- *Reflection Question: How can you demonstrate God's love in a practical way to someone in need this week?*

- *Prayer: God, thank you for your love and for calling me your child. I pray for a heart that overflows with your love and for opportunities to show your love through my actions and words.*

### **Day 4: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

- *Reflection Question: How can you practice cheerful generosity in your life this week, and how might it reflect God's grace to those around you?*

- *Prayer: God, thank you for your abundant provision in my life. Give me a generous heart that gives cheerfully and for my giving to glorify you and bless others.*

**Day 5: Luke 10:25-37**

- *Reflection Question: Who is someone in your life that you can show mercy and kindness to this week, and how can you take action?*

- *Prayer: God, give me a heart of compassion and the courage to love others selflessly. I pray for opportunities to be a good neighbor and to reflect your love to others.*

**Day 6: 1 Peter 4:1-11**

- *Reflection Question: What are your God-given gifts? How does God want to use your gifting to bring glory to Him?*

- *Prayer: God, I pray for strength to live for your will and not my own desires. Show me how to use my gifts to serve others and glorify you in everything I do.*

**Day 7: Romans 12:1-21**

- *Reflection Question: In what area of your life is God inviting you to live as a "living sacrifice"?*

- *Prayer: God, transform my mind and guide me in living a life of worship. I pray for strength to love others sincerely and to respond to challenges with goodness and grace.*

### **WEEK 3: ON MISSION TOGETHER**

### **Overview**

The Church is called to live missionally, both individually and collectively. This session will explore God's love for the world, the significance of the Great Commission, and how to engage our spheres of influence by identifying, praying for, and sharing with non-believers. Practical teaching on sharing the Gospel and the role of Kingdom Come partnerships highlights how we can make an impact locally, nationally, and globally. Together, we are empowered to live out our faith and participate in God's mission to ensure every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to hear and see the Gospel.

### **Opening Questions**

*Take a moment to reflect on this past week and today's theme and discuss the following with questions with those around you:*

*What did you learn last week? What has God been teaching you throughout these past few weeks?*

*When you hear the word mission, what comes to mind? How do you think it applies to your everyday life?*

*Have you ever had a conversation about faith with someone who doesn't believe in Jesus? What was that experience like?*

## Teaching

### Section 1: God's love for the world

God's mission is rooted in His profound love for the world, which serves as the foundation of the Gospel and the Church's calling. His love is universal, unconditional, and sacrificial, crossing all boundaries to bring salvation through Jesus Christ. The Great Commission reflects God's desire for all people to know Him, calling believers to actively participate in His redemptive work locally, nationally, and globally.

#### Key Points

- God's love spans all cultures, races, and nations, culminating in the promise of salvation through Jesus Christ (John 3:16, Genesis 12:3)
- Biblical Demonstrations of God's Love:
  - Creation: Humanity created in God's image (Genesis 1:27).
  - Israel's Calling: Israel as a light to the nations (Isaiah 49:6).
  - Jesus' Life and Sacrifice: God's love revealed in Jesus' life, compassion, and sacrifice (Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:10).
- Believers are compelled to share God's love, as emphasized in 1 John 4:19 and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).
- The Chapel focuses on ensuring repeated opportunities to share the Gospel locally and beyond, inspired by Revelation 7:9.
- Practical ways to live out God's love:
  - Pray for the Nations: Seek God's guidance for opening hearts and sending Gospel workers.
  - Engage Locally: Build relationships with those in your community who don't know Jesus.
  - Support Missionaries and Ministries: Partner with organizations and individuals spreading the Gospel globally.
  - Live with Geographic Intentionality: Be intentional about sharing Christ in your unique sphere of influence.

#### DISCUSS

- *Read Revelation 7:9. This verse presents a vision of a diverse multitude worshiping God. How does this inspire your role in participating in God's mission, both locally and globally?*

## **Section 2: The Great Commission**

The Great Commission is central to the mission of every believer and church, as Jesus calls His followers to make disciples, baptize them, and teach them to obey His commands (Matthew 28:19-20). This commission will involve intentional action, relationship with others, discipleship, faithful teaching, and empowering believers to live as Christ's ambassadors in their communities and beyond. Through the promise of Jesus' presence and the power of the Holy Spirit, the Great Commission becomes both a privilege and a responsibility for ALL believers.

### **Key Points**

- "Go": The call to action involves intentional engagement in our current contexts and readiness to reach people globally as God leads.
- "Make Disciples": Discipleship is fostering faith growth and guiding others to follow Jesus and become disciple-makers. This will often include a relational component to it.
- "Baptize": Baptism symbolizes unity with Christ and publicly identifies believers with the Church.
- "Teach": Teaching equips believers to know and live out God's Word in every area of life.
- The Holy Spirit equips and empowers believers to fulfill this mission with boldness and faith.
- Practical Steps: Pray for opportunities, build relationships, share personal testimonies, and partner with the Church's ministries locally and globally.

## **Section 3: Sphere of Influence**

This section focuses on living on mission within your "sphere of influence," which includes the people you regularly interact with in your family, neighborhood, workplace, or community. It emphasizes that God has placed you in these relationships for a purpose—to reflect Christ and share the Gospel.

### **Key points**

- Identifying Your Sphere of Influence: Think of 3-5 people in your life who don't know Jesus and recognize your unique role in their lives.
- Prayer as the Foundation: Pray for open hearts, opportunities, boldness, and transformation for those in your sphere of influence.
- Engagement Through Relationships: Build authentic relationships by being present, showing kindness, living authentically, and being genuinely curious about others.
- Sharing the Gospel: Be prepared to explain the Gospel clearly, share your personal story, use Scripture, and invite a response while trusting the Holy Spirit to work.

## SPHERE OF INFLUENCE EXERCISE

Who are some people in your life that don't know Jesus? Make a list. Use these starting categories to help you make your list:

Family

Friends

Neighborhood

Work

Recreational Activities

*Review the lists you've created. Choose 3-5 people who you can be intentional with. How might God use you to show His love to them?*

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## DISCUSS

- *What's one way you can live on mission this week?*
- *How can you support the broader mission of The Chapel?*

## Section 4: Sharing the Gospel

Sharing the Gospel is a vital part of living out our faith, as it invites others to experience God's transformative love. While sharing can feel intimidating, understanding the Gospel makes it approachable. The Gospel can be summarized in four key points:

1. **God's Design:** We were created for a perfect relationship with God, others, and creation.
2. **Brokenness:** Sin disrupted this relationship, separating us from God.
3. **Jesus' Rescue Mission:** Jesus died and rose again to restore our relationship with God.



4. **Response:** We respond by repenting, placing our faith in Jesus, and following Him as Lord.

An easy way to remember and share the Gospel is the acronym GOSPEL:

- **G:** God created us to be in a relationship with Him.
- **O:** Our sin separates us from God.
- **S:** Sin can't be erased by good deeds.
- **P:** Jesus paid the price for our sin through His death and resurrection.
- **E:** Everyone who believes and confesses Jesus as Lord
- **L:** will live with God forever.

**EXERCISE: REVIEW THE GOSPEL STORY**

Step 1: Summarize the gospel in your own words.

Step 2: Match the Verses

*Match the Bible verse to the corresponding point of the Gospel*

Gospel Points	Scripture
Creation & God's design	
Brokenness	
Jesus' Rescue Mission	
New Creation	
Response	

Scripture: Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:31, Deuteronomy 6:4, Genesis 3:6-7, Romans 3:19, Matthew 25:30, John 3:16, Romans 2:21-25, Romans 8:35, 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, Romans 12:17-21, John 14:3, Revelation 21:1-7, John 10:10, Ephesians 2:8-9, Mark 1:15, Romans 10:9-10

Sharing the Gospel is one of the most meaningful ways to live out our faith, and it doesn't have to be complicated. Here are practical steps to help you confidently share the good news:

1. **Start with Prayer**

Pray for the person you're sharing with, asking God to open their heart and guide your words. Remember, it's God who saves, not us.

2. **Build a Relationship**

Invest in meaningful relationships by listening to their story, valuing their perspective, and earning their trust.

3. **Share Your Story**

Share your personal testimony of how Jesus has transformed your life, focusing on:

- Your life before Christ.
- Your moment of realizing your need for a Savior.
- How Jesus has changed your life since surrendering to Him.
- *Incorporate Scripture to center your story on Jesus and His work in your life.*

4. **Be Intentional**

Transition conversations to spiritual topics by asking thoughtful questions, such as:

- What's your spiritual background?
- Who is Jesus to you?
- Have you thought about your relationship with God?
- *Listen carefully to their responses to foster meaningful dialogue.*

5. **Share Scripture**

Use clear, impactful Bible verses to explain the Gospel, like John 14:6 or 2 Corinthians 5:15. If the opportunity arises, invite them to read Scripture aloud and reflect on it together.

6. **Keep It Simple**

Avoid confusing church jargon and explain the Gospel in accessible language. When appropriate, invite them to accept Jesus as their Savior, guiding them in prayer and celebrating their step of faith.

**EXERCISE: SHARE THE GOSPEL**

Pair up and practice sharing the gospel. Use the GOSPEL acronym, or another framework that will help you share key points of the gospel. Try sharing the gospel in 2-3 minutes. The "listener" should ask simple follow up questions as needed. For example, ask, "What do you mean by grace?" or "How do I respond to this message?" Once you've practiced, switch roles.

Provide feedback to each other.

- Was the explanation clear?
- Did it feel conversational or rehearsed?
- Was Scripture referenced effectively?
- How did the Gospel feel relevant to the scenario?

## Section 5: Partnerships

The mission of the Church is far greater than any one person or organization can achieve alone, which is why partnerships are vital. At The Chapel, through Kingdom Come, we collaborate with like-minded churches and ministries locally, nationally, and globally to advance the Gospel. These partnerships combine resources, expertise, and reach to provide practical care and spiritual hope, reflecting the unity and shared purpose of the body of Christ.

### **Key Points:**

- Partnerships reflect the shared mission of the Church, allowing us to do more together than we could individually (1 Corinthians 3:6-9).
- Kingdom Come is a “by faith” initiative that supports ministries locally, nationally, and internationally, helping to meet needs and spread the Gospel with geographic intentionality.
- Examples of Impact:
  - Locally: Partnering with Prince of Peace Christian Church and Lockport CARES to serve those in need.
  - Nationally: Working with Christ Together and Eight Days of Hope for church planting and disaster relief.
  - Internationally: Supporting Mission of Hope in Haiti and Israel First Fruits to empower leaders and advance the Gospel globally.
- Your Role in Kingdom Come:
  - Pray: Commit to praying for our partners and their ministries.
  - Give: Financially support Kingdom Come to enable its initiatives.
  - Serve: Volunteer locally or through mission trips.
  - Advocate: Share the mission and encourage others to get involved.
- Geographic Intentionality and Gospel Saturation ensure we are providing repeated opportunities for every person to encounter the Gospel and see it lived out.
- By engaging in partnerships and Kingdom Come, we unite as workers in God’s harvest field, fulfilling His call to bring hope and transformation to the world.

### **DISCUSS**

- *Take a few moments and visit <https://www.kingdomcomewny.com/>. What stands out to you about our local, national, and international partnerships?*
  
- *Which of these initiatives resonates with you? How might you personally get involved through prayer, giving, serving, or advocating?*

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## DISCUSS

- *What is one practical way you can live missionally in your sphere of influence this week?*
- *How can you engage more deeply with Kingdom Come—whether through prayer, giving, or serving?*
- *Who is one person in your life that you can pray for and intentionally connect with this week?*



At the conclusion of class, please fill out this form: [thechapel.com/belongthree](https://thechapel.com/belongthree)

## Teaching Notes

*As you watch the video, use this page to take notes.*

## Next Step

*This week, take a next step to belonging at The Chapel.*

*Our desire is to continuously help you pursue spiritual transformation - we want to help you grow in Christlikeness.*

*Are you ready to become a member at The Chapel? Complete the [Membership Interest Form](#) and review the Membership Covenant.*



<https://thechapel.com/membershipinterest>

## Practice and Reflection

*This week, take some time to practice what you've learned and to spend time in reflection.*

### Daily Reading & Prayer Plan

Each day includes a short passage from Scripture, a reflection question to help engage with the text, and prayer prompt. As you prepare to engage the Scripture daily, consider the following steps:

1. Read - read the passage slowly - consider reading it 2-3 times, and reading it out loud at least once
2. Observe - ask questions of the text. Who wrote this text? Who are they writing to? What's happening? Where is this happening? When? Write down your observations.
3. Interpret - based off the observations you just made, what is the intended meaning of this text?
4. Apply - Consider how you should respond to what you've read. Answer the reflection prompt provided if that's helpful
5. Pray - thank God for what He's shown you, and pray to faithfully live it out. Use the provided prayer prompts to guide you.

### **Day 1: Revelation 7:1-17**

- *Reflection Question: How can you live today in a way that reflects the hope and worship of the eternal celebration in God's presence?*

- *Prayer: God, I thank you for the promise of salvation and for the protection you offer. Help me to live with the hope of eternal worship before your throne. Teach me to honor you with my life and share the hope of your salvation with others.*

**Day 2: Acts 2:1-11**

- *Reflection Question: How can you allow the Holy Spirit to work through you to share God's message with others this week?*

- *Prayer: God, I thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Fill me with your Spirit and give me the boldness and ability to share your wonders with those around me. Help me to trust in your power to reach others through my words and actions.*

**Day 3: 1 Corinthians 3:1-23**

- *Reflection Question: What steps can you take to ensure you are building your life on the solid foundation of Christ?*

- *Prayer: God, I thank you for being the foundation of my faith. Help me to build my life with care, using wisdom from your Word. Teach me to trust in you as I work to glorify you and grow in my faith.*

**Day 4: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21**

- *Reflection Question: How can you be an ambassador for Christ in your words and actions this week?*
  
- *Prayer: God, I thank you for reconciling me to yourself through Christ. Help me to live as an ambassador for you, sharing your message of love and reconciliation with others. Give me the courage to represent you well in everything I say and do.*

**Day 5: 1 Peter 3:8-22**

- *Reflection Question: How can you reflect hope and gentleness in your interactions, especially with those who may oppose or misunderstand your faith?*
  
- *Prayer: God, I thank you for the hope I have in Christ. Help me to live in harmony with others and respond with gentleness and respect, even in challenging situations. Teach me to follow Christ's example and trust in you through every circumstance.*

**Day 6: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16**

- *Reflection Question: How can you share both the truth of the Gospel and your life with someone in a meaningful way this week?*
  
- *Prayer: God, I thank you for the privilege of sharing both your message and my life with others. Please help me to be sincere, gentle, and bold in encouraging and building up those around me in their faith.*



**Day 7: 1 John 4:7-21**

- *Reflection Question: How can you demonstrate God's love to someone in your life this week, especially someone who may be difficult to love?*
  
- *Prayer: God, thank you for your perfect love that casts out fear. I pray for a heart that reflects your love and for the courage to love others selflessly, even when it's challenging.*