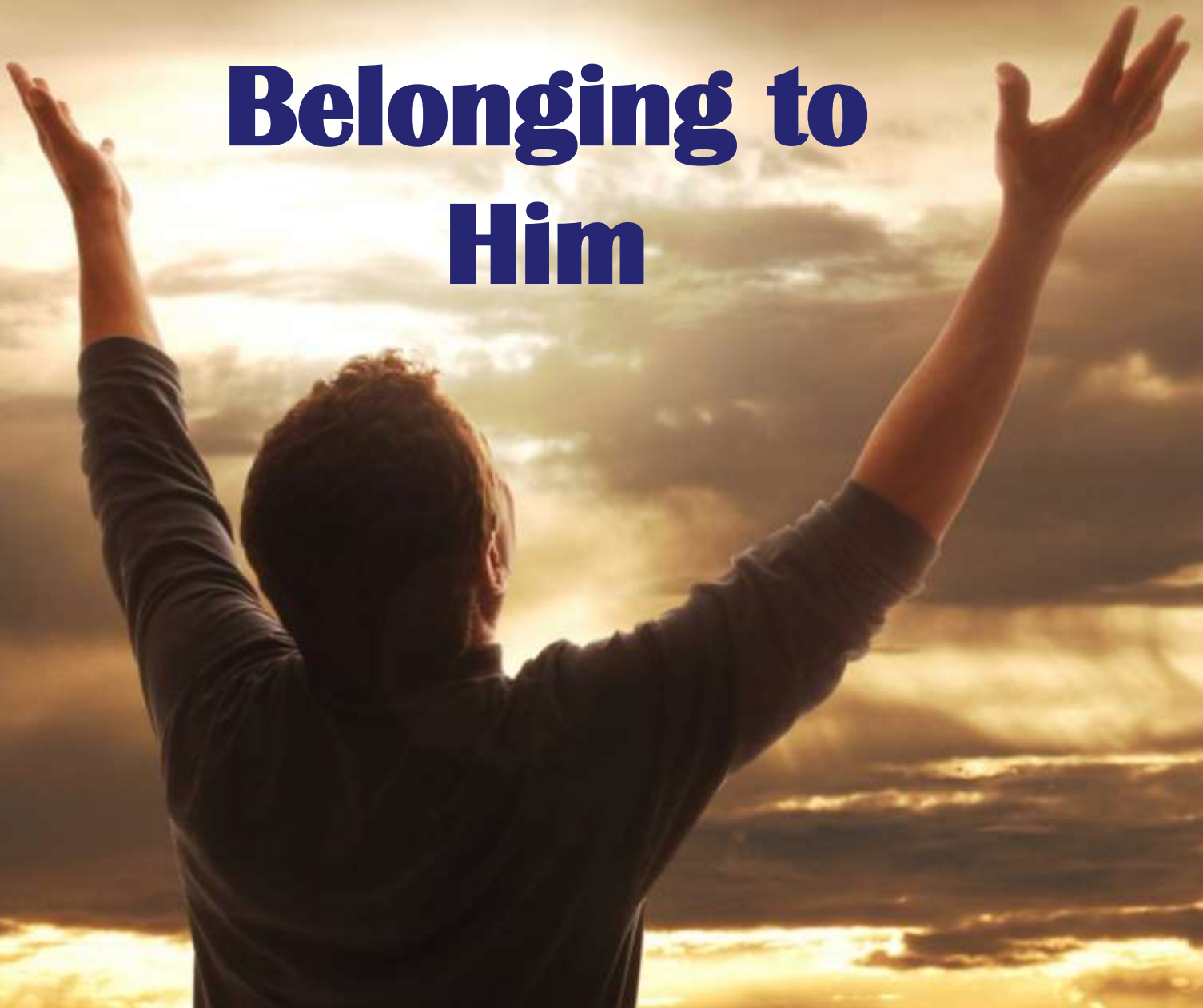
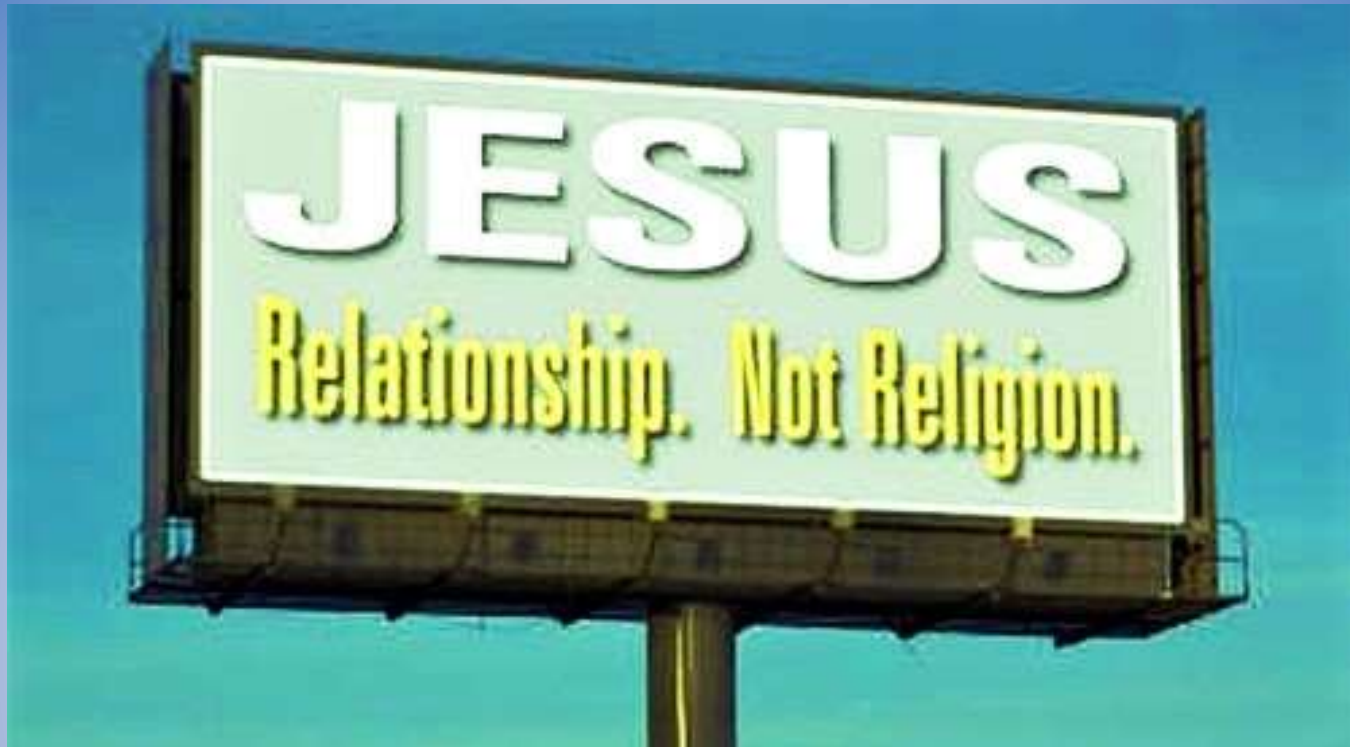


Belonging to Him



Let's Review,
Shall We?





Life Is Relationship

The best way to embrace and share the gospel is to understand that personal relationship is the deepest need of the human heart, and that God meets that need when we belong to him.



An Unknown God

Often without our awareness, our human ways of viewing the world can keep us from truly belonging to him in the way God intends.



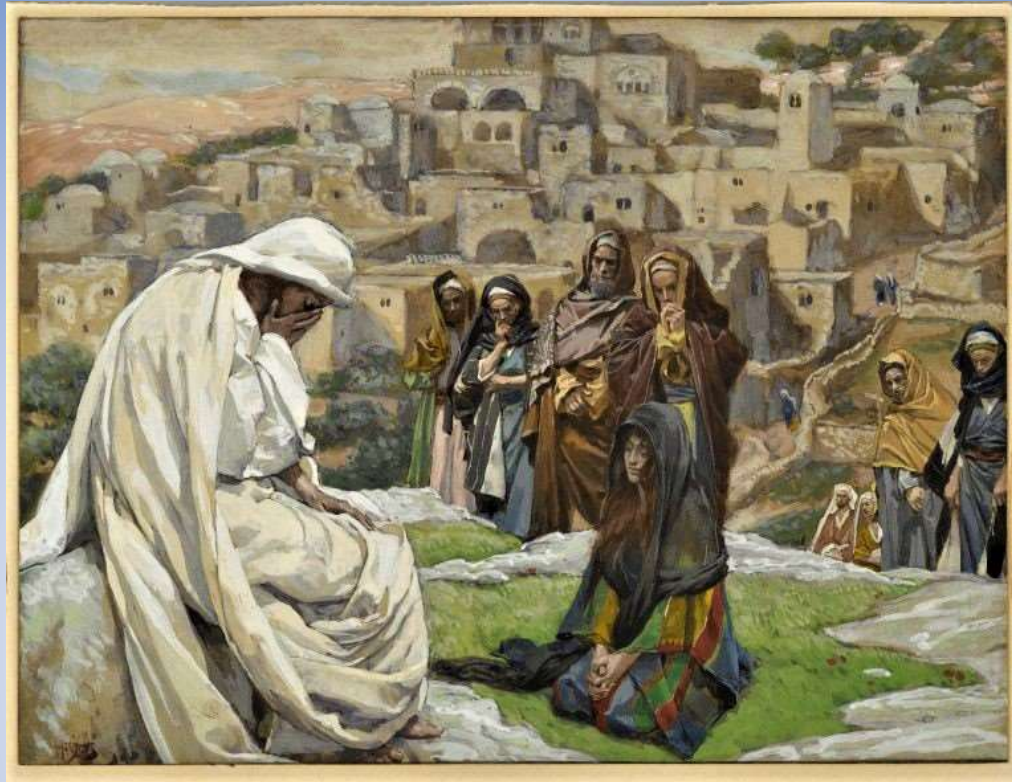
Everything Personal

Unlike other world religions, the God of Christianity is both personal and relational. In him we live, move, and have our being.



It Is Not Good That You Should Be Alone

At the root of everything that's wrong in the world and in ourselves is the desire to live life on our own terms and the resulting separation from God.



How Could I Love A God Like That?

God's answer to the problem of evil & suffering was to send his Son to weep with us and then to suffer for us so we would one day suffer no more.



Belonging to Him Through the Cross

From the moment of his birth to his death on the cross, Jesus experienced aloneness and rejection...so we could enjoy true belonging.



God So Loves YOU!

Despite the famous verse from John 3:16, God doesn't just so love the world...God loves you. He would have died if you were the only one in the world to die for.



The Warm Embrace of Grace

Most need a good hug from time to time. But all of us need the embrace of forgiveness and grace. God wants to welcome us home and love us back to life.



True Love in Relationship

Too many defend truth at the expense of love. Or elevate love at the expense of truth. But like in any healthy family, both truth and love are meant to be our guide.



True Relationship

What's more meaningful? That something is true or that *someone is true to you*? The Bible is true, but first God himself is true and faithful in calling us to belong to him.



The Word of Relationship

Words have power. But God's words have the greatest power to connect & transform because they're personal. And because God's Word is a *person*: Jesus Christ.



Freedom in Relationship

Only by surrendering our freedom to the governance of God in relationship can we ever truly know what it means to be free.



A Transcendent Faith

Jesus sets high standards for living. To follow him, we need the transforming power of grace, which can only be experienced through relational, transcendent faith.

Let's Review,
Shall We?



A person is seen from behind, standing with their arms raised high in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt. The background is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with a bright sun partially obscured by clouds, creating a golden glow. The overall mood is one of spiritual devotion and hope.

**Belonging to
Him**

Absolute Relationship

Absolute Relationship

Living In Absolute Relationship

The objective of most Christian apologists is to defend absolute truth.

Absolute: “Universal, perfect, pervasive, all-affecting. Not relative, variable, or subjective.”

But the fundamental way to believe in the life of Christianity—and to call others to believe—is to live our lives in *absolute relationship* with God & others.

Absolute Relationship

Living In Absolute Relationship

*“This is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”
(John 17:3)*

“Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain.” (Genesis 4:1)

Absolute Relationship

Living In Absolute Relationship

*“This is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”
(John 17:3)*

*“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life. And it is they that bear witness about me. Yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.”
(John 5:39-40)*

Absolute Relationship

Living In Absolute Relationship

*“This is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”
(John 17:3)*

*“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life.”
(John 3:36)*

*“My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life.”
(John 10:27-28)*

Absolute Relationship

**One Who Has
Been With Jesus**



Absolute Relationship

One Who Has Been With Jesus

“When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.” (Acts 4:13)

Absolute Relationship



Jacqui's Story

Absolute Relationship

Jacqui's Story



“We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”

Absolute Relationship

Jacqui's Story



“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”

Absolute Relationship

Jacqui's Story



“All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.”

Absolute Relationship

Jacqui's Story



“Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.”

Absolute Relationship

Jacqui's Story



“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”

Absolute Relationship

Jacqui's Story



“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

(2 Corinthians 4:7-9,15-17)

Absolute Relationship

Absolute Relationship with Jesus

“Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

“Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.” (Revelation 21:3)

A person is seen from behind, with their arms raised high in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt. The background is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with a bright sun partially obscured by clouds, creating a golden glow. The overall mood is one of spiritual devotion and hope.

**Belonging to
Him**

Absolute Relationship