

Built on the Rock

Jesus's Daring Plan to Reach the World

Pastor Toby Locke • Week 3 • 1/31/2021



Taking Truth “Out For A Spin”

Ephesians 4:1-7

Introduction: If you haven't taken a potential new car out for a test drive, then you aren't ready to buy the car, are you?

To Review, God Says: (Ephesians 2:19-22)

- You belong TO _____, you belong WITH His _____.

How Do I Take that Truth “Out for a Spin”?

- I _____ as if what God has said is _____, and then I see what happens. (Ephesians 4:1)

What would that look like?

- I _____ what we have in _____. (Ephesians 4:4-6)
- I _____ our _____. (Ephesians 4:7)

- More to come next week...

Conclusion: To take God's claims “out for a spin,” you must get your mind right about God's people. How's YOUR thinking?

Week 3 Plan to “Make It Stick”

Monday:

- Get out a notebook or a piece of paper, and reflect on a specific situation from your life when you ACTED as if what God said was TRUE even before you had proof. How did it turn out? What effect did that experience have on your faith going forward?

Tuesday: “Belonging” in the NT Research Project

- Go to www.biblegateway.com and type the word “belong” into the search bar. Once you get the results, on the far right there will be a list of all the times the word appears in the OT and NT. Click on “NT” and then look at the occurrences starting in Romans 1 through the end of the Bible. Make a list of all the verses where it says that we “belong” to Jesus or to Christ or to God. Make a second list of all the verses where it says that we “belong” to one another or to other believers.

Wednesday: Reflect on your “Belonging” research project.

- Why do you think the Bible makes such a big deal about us “belonging” to God? Was there one of the verses in the first category (belonging to God) that really stood out to you or meant something to you? Did you learn anything about “belonging” with God's people from this project?

Thursday: “AFFIRM what we have in COMMON”

- Make as exhaustive of a list as you can of all the things that true believers in Jesus have in common with one another (start with the list that Paul gives in Ephesians 4:4-6, and then add a few more of your own thinking). Then, reflect: with all these things in common, why do you think we tend to focus so much on our differences?

Friday: “CELEBRATE our DIFFERENCES”

- Can you think of a specific person who is quite a bit different from you (outside your immediate family or spouse) but who shares your faith, your values, and your direction? I challenge you to think of a way to “celebrate” those differences today. Maybe write them a note to point out the things you appreciate about them, even if they are different from you? Maybe post a kind word about them on Facebook to honor them for how they've touched your life? Give them a call?