

Be-Longing

Part 1



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Home Belonging Nostalgia



'Nostalgia'

- combining two Greek words: *nóstos* (homecoming) and *álgos* (pain)
- everyone becomes nostalgic at times, that painful pleasure of remembering the good times
- longing for a particular time or place leaves a sense of being uprooted, the loss of stability and security, relationship and belonging.
- all instinctively long for love, protection and comfort
- feelings associated with **HOME**



Belonging



1. 'Be-longing': Longing to belong:

1.1 HOME

Strong's Bible definitions:

Hebrew: nâvâh naw-vaw'

A primitive root; to rest (as at home); causatively (through the implied idea of beauty (compare H5116)), to celebrate (with praises): - keep at home, prepare an habitation. *[Shalom / Jesus gives peace]**

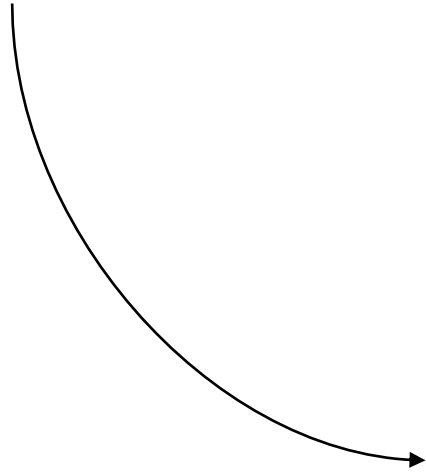
Greek: oikos oy'-kos

Of uncertain affinity; a dwelling (more or less extensive, literally or figuratively); by implication a family (more or less related, literally or figuratively): - home, house (-hold), temple.

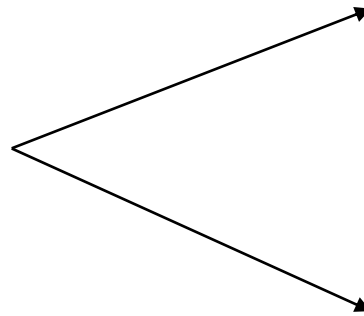


Longing for...

Belonging



HOME



to rest [Peace / Shalom]

a family



1.2 Jesus holds the keys:

John 8:31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching [*message / word*]*, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Truth of belonging



2. Rooted and belonging like Jesus:

Jesus grew up – family and home – yet shows a greater reality

2.1 ‘Lord, You are HOME to me’:

Acts 17:27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’



LIFE



HOME:

-Primary

-Secondary

Matthew 8: The Cost of Following Jesus

19 Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” 20 Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” 21 Another disciple said to him, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” 22 But Jesus told him, “Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead.”



[TPT] 20 Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens, birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no true home in this world.”

[Living Bible] 20 But Jesus said, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but I, the Messiah,[a] have no home of my own—no place to lay my head.” 21 Another of his disciples said, “Sir, when my father is dead, then I will follow you.” 22 But Jesus told him, “Follow me now! Let those who are spiritually dead care for their own dead.”

Belonging | **HOME, REST, FAMILY** | is a matter of Spirit and
of the natural first

UPSIDE DOWN



Belonging...



UPSIDE DOWN

...like Jesus

2.2 Family and Belonging:

Matthew 12:46-50 Jesus' Mother and Brothers

46 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. 47

Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you." 48 He replied to him,

"Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" 49 Pointing

to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my

brothers. 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in

heaven is my brother and sister and mother."



Who is it?

Matthew 10:34 “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to turn “a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— 36 a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’ 37 “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.




Jesus' reality | True family?

Romans 8:5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace...

9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ...



Jesus' reality | Spirit family

12 Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—
but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. 13 For if you
live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you
put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. 14 For
those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of
God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so
that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received
brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry,
“Abba, Father.” 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit
that we are God’s children. 17 Now if we are children, then
we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed
 **new LIFE** we share in his sufferings in order that we may also
share in his glory.

Jesus’ reality | Spirit family

2.3 Loving belonging and balance:

John 19:25 Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," 27 and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

We are children of GOD - Home

- Rest and Family

- Belonging

...like Jesus



Hebrews 11:13-16 These all died in faith without having received the promises, but they saw them from a distance, greeted them, and confessed that they were foreigners and temporary residents *[strangers and pilgrims]* on the earth. 14 Now those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they were thinking about where they came from, they would have had an opportunity to return. 16 But they now desire a better place—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.**



Belong like a follower of Jesus





Let's pray