

Be-Longing

Part 2



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30 May 2021



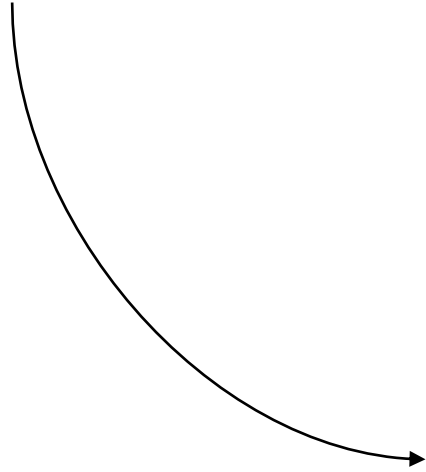
**Belonging
Nostalgia
Home
Rest
Family**

Like Jesus...

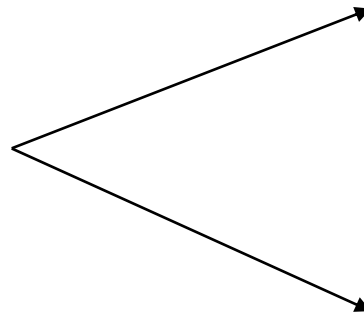


Longing for...

Belonging



HOME



to rest [Peace / Shalom]

a family



Recap -

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.”



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."



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.



Belonging...

**Two very tough ones
in our context:**

- 1. Home**
- 2. Family**



‘Jesus, how is this even possible?’



1. How is this even possible?:

Truly belonging like Jesus

- seeing home and family, spiritually, eternally and truthfully

Testimony...



1. How is this even possible?:

1.1 Love:

Scriptures

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.



Romans 5 Faith Triumphs

Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 We have also obtained access through Him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, 4 endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. 5 This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.



1 John 4:15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God—God remains in him and he in God. 16 And we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. 17 In this, love is perfected with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment, for we are as He is in this world. 18 There is no fear in love; instead, perfect love drives out fear, because fear involves punishment. So the one who fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because He first loved us.



1.2 A Supernatural Empowerment:

Isaiah 55:11 AMP

So will My word be which goes out of My mouth; It will not return to Me void (useless, without result), Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.



1.3 Sonship belonging:

Romans 8: 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 we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.



How do you belong to...?

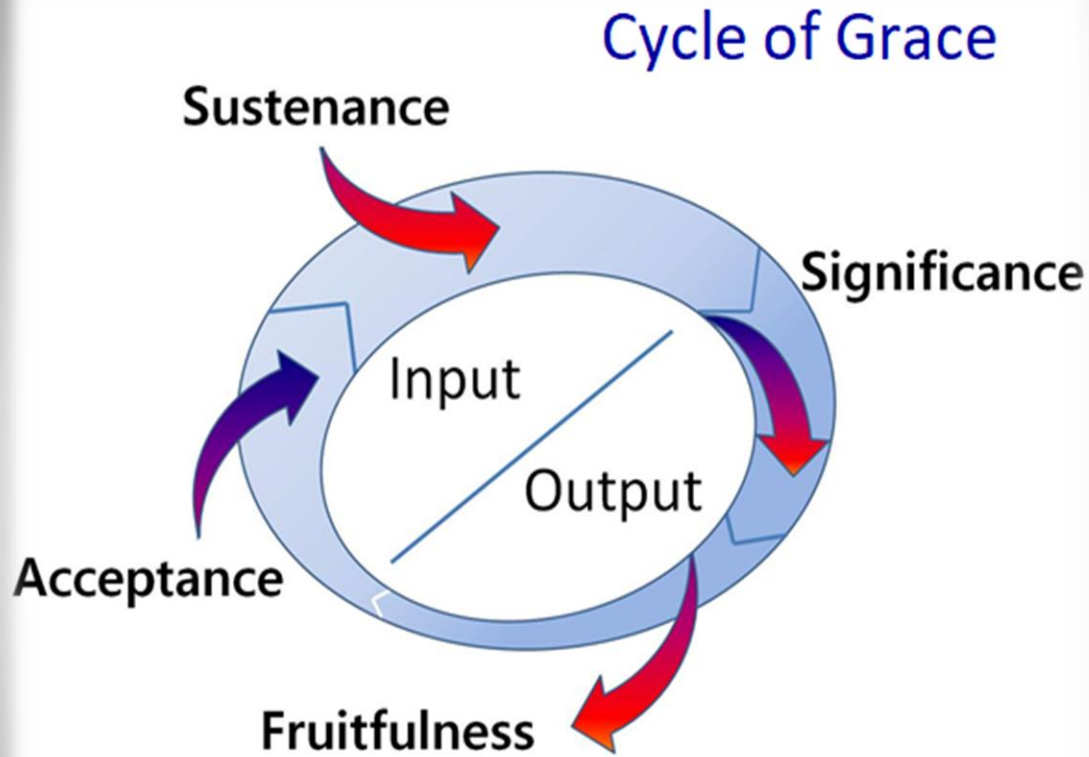


Belonging: Like a Slave OR like a Son?

Galatians 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.



1. Cycle of grace:



1. Acceptance: Jesus lived from here – Matthew 3:17
And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

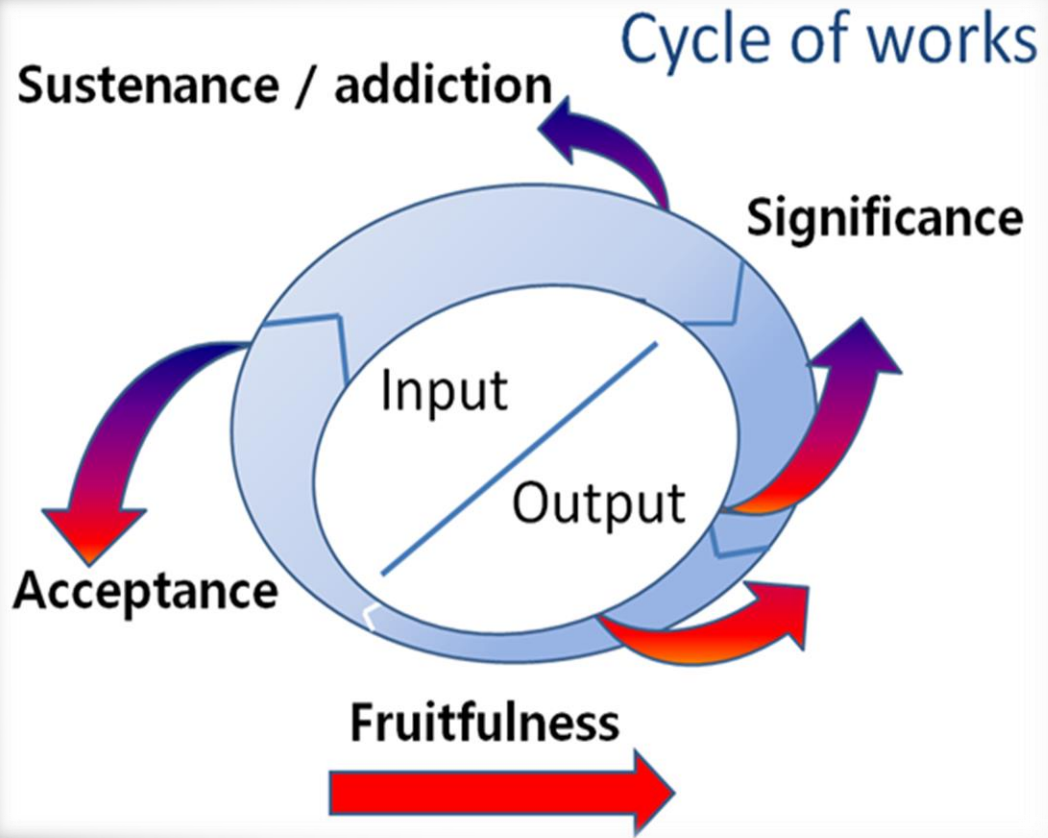
2. Sustenance: Jesus’ habitual practices sustained his identity “This is My beloved Son...” Withdrew often, prayer to the Father; worshipped with others; surrounded with the right friends; knew Scriptures and nature of God. He received SUSTAINING grace from God.

3. Significance: Jesus knew exactly: Son of Man | The Messiah | Doing God’s business. Not having to fight for something unsure. He knew! Significance of God and not of man.

4. Fruitfulness: [Achievements] The grace in Jesus produced results – He was fruitful and finished what He came for – God’s reign, transforming lives, discipling those entrusted to Him

Likewise for us!

2. Cycle of works



- Wrong way around for belonging, home and affection
- Slaves will strive and try to perform
- Try to be fruitful for the eventual chance of acceptance and belonging



Belonging...



UPSIDE DOWN

...BY GRACE

Belong like a follower of Jesus





Belonging by grace





Let's pray