



Introduction

Where do you feel "at home"? The place we feel at home is the place where we feel comfortable, where we are able to be ourselves without judgment. If you asked someone if they felt at home at church, many people would answer that question with a resounding no. We want to change that for every single person who enters Browns Bridge. We want you and the people who enter our building to say that Browns Bridge feels like home.

Discussion Questions

1. Where do you feel most at home in your life? What is it about that place that makes you feel at home?
2. Why do you think church doesn't feel like home for many people? What is it about the church that keeps people from seeing it as a place where they can be comfortable, where they can be themselves without judgment?
3. Many people today might say that God feels distant, faith seems irrelevant, and the church is foreign to them. Was there ever a point in your life when you felt this way about the church? What made you feel this way?
4. **Read Ephesians 2:11–12.** Paul uses phrases like "separate from Christ," "excluded from citizenship," "foreigners to the covenants," and "without hope" to describe the relationship of the gentiles to God. How would you translate these phrases to the way the church can make people feel today? In what ways does the church sometimes communicate this attitude to others?
5. **Read Ephesians 2:13–19.** In these verses, Paul paints a completely opposite picture of the gentiles' relationship with God—one of connection and hope. Read each verse and pick out the words or phrases that Paul uses to define the new relationship the gentiles, and we, now have with God. As you identify these words and phrases, what do you hear Paul communicating to you? How does that impact the way you see your relationship with God and with others?
6. How can we create an atmosphere where people feel at home in our church? How can we create an environment where people feel like God is close, faith is relevant, and the church feels like home?

Moving Forward

We all want to find a place that feels like home—a place where we feel comfortable, where we are able to be ourselves without judgement. Our hope is to create an environment that feels just like that for every person who walks through our doors. But it's not about making Browns Bridge great. We want you to feel at home here so that you ultimately feel at home with God.