

BELONGING OPENING SESSION | DAY 4



Key Question	How do I belong?
Life Application	I can create spaces of belonging by seeing others the way God sees them.
Bottom Line	I am created to belong and help others feel the same.
Basic Truth	I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

DAY 4: YOU BELONG WHEN YOU CARE FOR OTHERS SELFLESSLY

What is a selfless thing I can do for someone today?

Supplies:

- cat food and a bowl
- clothes
- a big sponge
- a toilet brush
- Bible video cued and ready
- 1 Band-Aid per Camper
- 3 chairs
- 3 pylons to mark starting lines on the floor

Host: Good morning campers! I'm so happy that you are all here at VISTO! (Hold out V-shaped fingers. Wait for a response from the Campers)

Call & Response **WE ARE KNOWN, HEAR OUR SONG. ALL TOGETHER, WE BELONG!**

Today is an important day as we put the finishing touches on our Showcase. (jazz hands)
We get to share what we have learned this week with our family and friends!

Have you invited anyone to Showcase (jazz hands) and the BBQ tomorrow?

As your family arrives tomorrow, we will invite you to join them. You will eat together and then be called in for Showcase.

Everyone got it? Eat with family, guests & then "Showcase"

Also, please remember to wear your VISTO shirt tomorrow!

Host: Now, let's play a game!

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Opening Game – Band-Aid Relay



Set one chair for each Crew to the side. Place the Band-Aids on the chair.
Mark a starting line with a pylon for each Crew several feet from each chair.

Line up behind your Crew's starting line. When the game begins, each of you will take your turn to run to the chair, unwrap a Band-Aid, and stick it to your shirt, arm or leg. Then run back to tag your next Crew member.

Your Crew wins when everyone has put on all of the Band-Aids and then sits down so that we know you are finished.

Play the game with background music

Host: Great job, Campers. Wow! I've never seen anyone put on Band-Aids as fast as you! Let's remember what we've learned so far this week.

1. You belong in your family
2. You belong with great friends (hold arms out to point to all of the Campers)
3. and you belong when you welcome others in.

Did you applaud and cheer for your family last night when they came into the room? Was that fun?

Today we are going to talk about how you belong when you care for others in a selfless way. That means you think of others first without expecting anything in return.

Vesper walks in with their hands full of cat food, a bowl, a toilet brush, a big sponge, and lots of clothes. Can barely their face or where they are walking.

Host: Vesper! Is that you? (Unsure at first until recognizes that it is Vesper behind all the things.)

VESPER: It's me! Hi, everyone!

HOST: What are you carrying there? Let me help you.

Host takes a few things off their pile so that Campers can see Vesper's face.

VESPER: Oh! Thank you for your help, Host's name! I thought I was going to drop everything. You came to my rescue.

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Host: What are you doing with all of these things?

VESPER: My parents are really busy right now with their jobs, and my brother is staying at a friend's house all week. So I wanted to do some chores at home to help everything to stay nice and clean while everyone's so busy!

Vesper sets down what they are holding and lists them off.

This is a bag of cat food and a bowl, so I can feed my brother's cat, Wasabi. Why he named that cat after something so spicy, I have no idea.

I also have a toilet brush so I can help my parents by cleaning the toilet!

And lots of laundry, so I can help fold it and put it away!

I have this huge sponge too, so I can even help clean all the dishes that we use.

Host: Wow, Vesper, you are very thoughtful! Your family does sound busy... what an awesome, selfless family member you are.

VESPER: Thanks! Wait... what does it mean to be selfless?

Host: Being selfless means you care for others without expecting anything in return. You care more about helping your family than getting rewards for your chores!

VESPER: Oh, I do!

Host grabs Bible

Host: I know a story in the Bible of a man who cared selflessly. (Host thumbs through the Bible to Luke 10.) Want to hear the story, Vesper?

VESPER: Yes!

Vesper leaves all of their things on the stage and sits down with the Campers.

Host: Campers, what is the Bible? The Bible is (Wait for the Campers to shout, TRUTH!)

Cue Bible Story Time SFX

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Host: Let's watch this video of our Bible Story.

<https://streamable.com/bv425c>

Host: What a great story of the good Samaritan. He was helpful and caring in a selfless way. He cared for the man's needs without expecting anything in return. It can be easy to want to do kind things to get a reward, but it's even more important to be kind when we don't get a reward, or when we don't feel like the person we're being kind to deserves our kindness.

Did the man on the road do anything nice to deserve being treated kindly by the Good Samaritan? No! But the Good Samaritan helped the man anyways, because he understood that everyone matters to God and belongs to God, no matter what. God loves us all so much, and we can love others by caring about them and acting selflessly.

How about you? What can you do today to show kindness to others in a selfless way? (take a few answers)

- Could you help your family with chores without being asked, like Vesper?
- You could help by unloading the dishwasher or setting the table while someone cooks dinner
- You could stay patient while you wait for your meal to come at a restaurant.
- Or even give someone a gift, just because!

As you go about your day today, be thinking of your answer to this question:

Cue Question of the Day Animation and SFX
What is a selfless thing I can do for someone today?

Host: Before we transition to the next exciting VISTO thing, let's pray as a-

VESPER: Ooh, _(Host's name)_, can I pray today? I want to talk to God too!

Host: That's a great idea, Vesper! Go ahead.

VESPER: Dear God, thank you for bringing the whole VISTO family back together for another day of camp! Thank you that you love us and that we belong to you, no matter what. Help us to be like the Good Samaritan by being selfless, showing kindness even when we don't get a reward for it. And help us to have a great day at VISTO! Amen.

Vesper exits.

WE BELONG TOGETHER!