

# Where You Belong

*Who's included in the Christmas story?*

We find \_\_\_\_\_  
when we \_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus

## For Further Reflection and Discussion

*Opener: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go, and why?*

How did God speak to you or work in you at church this Sunday?

What are some places and contexts where you have felt a strong sense of belonging?

- Why do you think you felt that way in those contexts?

Read about these characters we encounter in the Christmas story. For each of them, consider these questions:

- What in their situation might have been a barrier to them feeling like they belonged in God's plan?
- What in their situation could have been a potential point of pride they had to overcome?
- In what ways do you identify with them?

[If you are in a group, you might want to split these up, have different people work on their own to answer those questions, then come back together to share.]

- ⇒ Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-24)
- ⇒ Mary (Luke 1:26-38)
- ⇒ Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)
- ⇒ The shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)
- ⇒ The Magi (Matthew 2:1-12)

How can a selfish focus keep us from feeling like we belong?

What tends to distract you from a focus on Jesus (in this holiday season or any time)?

- What helps you stay focused on Jesus?

How can we pray for one another?