

**Beginnings: Longing to Belong**, by Andy Langford and Rob Weber

Length: 10 weeks (90 minutes)

Includes: DVD, and leader and participant guides; book can be purchased if class wants to read as part of study

*Beginnings: Longing to Belong* is a ten-week study that explores the importance of community in the Christian faith, using fire as its central metaphor. The study can be used as part of the *Beginnings* series or as a stand-alone program. Each session begins with a meal, at church or in a home, at which participants get to know each other and begin to build community. Participants then view a 20-minute video presentation on DVD, in which Rob Weber explores the week's topic through story and Scripture. After the video, participants break into groups of ten to twelve to discuss and share, study Scripture, and grow in depth of experience through the small group. Session themes:

- Longing to Belong? Introduction
- How Do We Find Our Place? Baptism
- What Are We Hungry For? Holy Communion
- What Happens When We Pray Together? Prayer
- What's the Deal With Miracles? Signs and Wonders
- What Do We Have in Common? Stewardship
- How Can We Remember Who We Are? Worship
- How Can We Open Our Lives to Each Other? Hospitality
- How Can We Get Along When We Are So Different? Conflict Resolution
- How Do We Share What We Have Discovered? Witness