



Welcoming Returning Members – Member Bible Study

It is our prayer and goal that the *Welcome Home* initiative will result in regaining the straying members. In the short-term, we focus on getting the straying to attend service for a Sunday *Welcome Home*. The long-term the goal is for the pastor, elders and leaders to address spiritual problems and bring straying sheep back to the Good Shepherd.

How can members make sure that a straying member feels welcome and loved when we see them return to church after a long absence? This is the topic addressed in four brief videos that give advice on welcoming members who left for different reasons.

The four “Welcoming the Return Member” videos are only discussion starters. Included in the downloadable materials for each video is a discussion guide which leaders can distribute and use to guide reflection on the topic of the video. The answers in the leaders guide will help the pastor or group study leader anticipate the discussion. Each video also has a lesson resource which the pastor or group study leader can read to prepare for a discussion. That lesson resource can be shared with the group if the study leader chooses. Each discussion guide also contains sections called “Reflection” for the group to read and discuss. Bible passages which follow the reflection will offer opportunity to apply Scripture to the reflection topic.