

Refuel IV

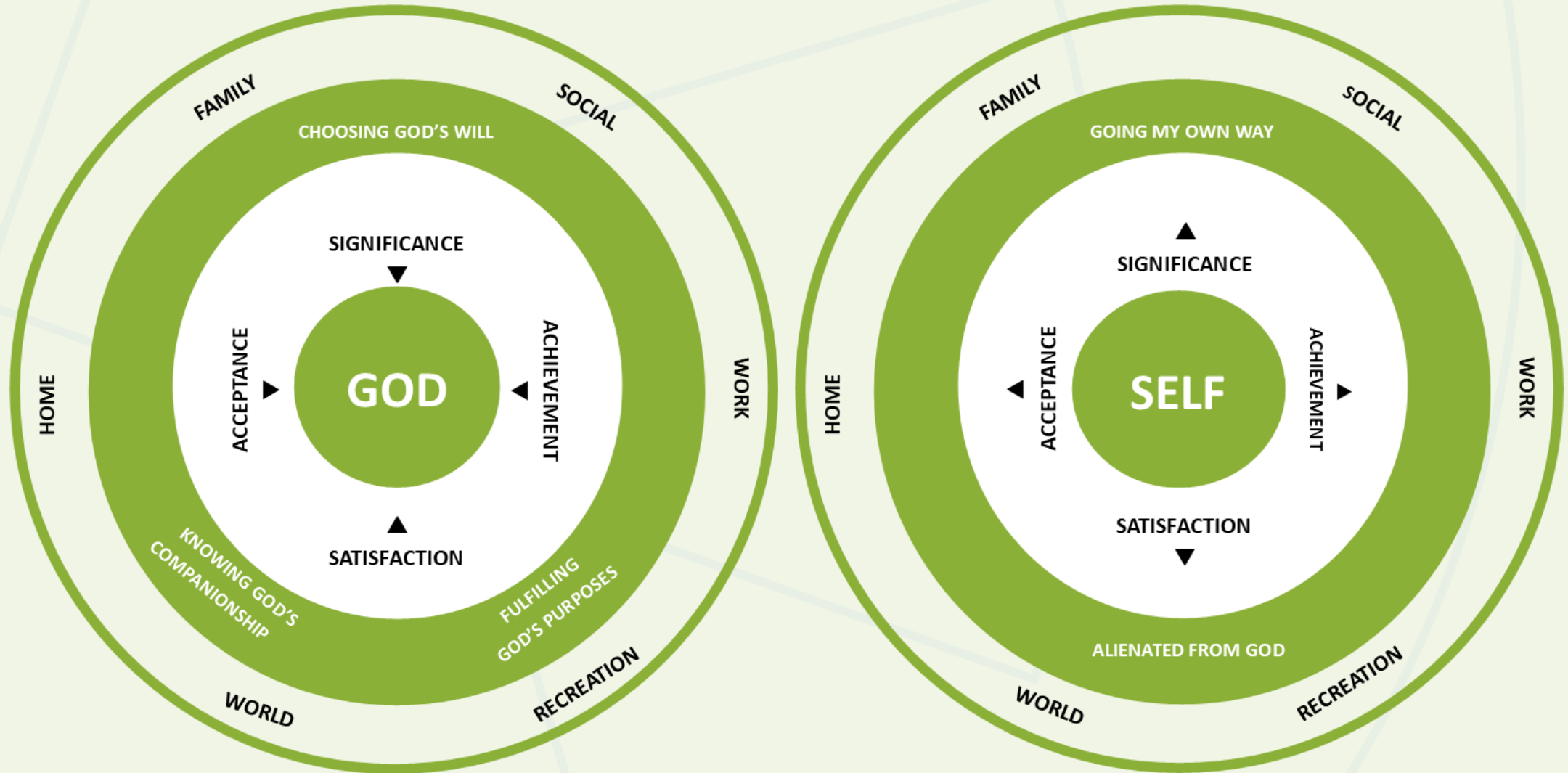
God's Delight in Me Seminar Slot 2:

Steve McClure



Two Circles Illustration

Credit: Pete Dowse,
former National Director
at Navigators UK



Before the Fall (Genesis 1-2)

After the Fall (Genesis 3 onwards)



'To Accept' (Oxford Online Dictionary)

Offer/Invitation: to willingly take something that is offered; to say “yes” to an offer, invitation, etc.

Receive as suitable: to receive something as suitable or good enough

Agree: to agree to or approve of something

Responsibility: accept something to admit that you are responsible or to blame for something
Believe: to believe that something is true

Difficult Situation: to continue in a difficult situation without complaining, because you realise that you cannot change it

Welcome: to make someone feel welcome and part of a group

Allow someone to join: to allow someone to join an organisation, attend an institution, use a service, etc.

1. Am I Accepted...

**...Even when I feel like
I don't belong?**

Discuss

1. In what ways do we, our communities and/or society accept or reject one another?
2. What basis is applied for such acceptance or rejection?
(E.g., Gender, Sexuality, Culture/Race or Status)

Ed Sheeran, Beautiful People Song

Am I Accepted even when I feel like I don't Belong?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74yb9E3WY1I>


Discuss

Spend some time re-reading the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song and think about the following questions:

1. What is the central message of the song?
2. What does the song have to say about acceptance/belonging?



[Photo by Marcin Dampc on Pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com/photo/festival-goers-celebrating-with-colorful-powder/)



Therefore, accept each other just
as Christ has accepted you so that
God will be given glory.

Romans 15:7 NLT

<https://open.life.church/resources/2313-romans-15-7-nlt>



#1 Accepted by Christ

¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but **his own did not receive him**. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

John 1:12-13



#2 Accepting one another

¹ Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarrelling over disputable matters. ² One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³ The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. ⁴ Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Romans 14:1-4



2. Am I Accepted...

**...Even if I am
different?**

Movie Clip: Hidden Figures, 2016

Am I accepted even if I am Different?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMCpffzi9Ts>



Discuss

1. What do you like/dislike about the clip?
2. What does the clip have to say about acceptance/belonging?



Jesus: friend of sinners

¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

Matthew 11:19



Discuss

- *The man with leprosy: Mark 1:40-45*
- *Woman caught in adultery: John 8:1-11*
- *Zacchaeus: Luke 19:1-10*
- *The Paralytic: Mark 2:1-12*
- *Samaritan woman: John 4:1-26*
- *Sinful Woman: Luke 7:36-50*

1. What was surprising (given the culture) about Jesus' encounters with each?
2. In what ways does show acceptance



One in Christ

...God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.

Acts 10:34b-35

²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:26-29



3. Am I Accepted...

**...When I feel so
broken?**

The Crown Episode 2.9

Am I Accepted when Relationships are Broken?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMCpffzi9Ts>

Discuss

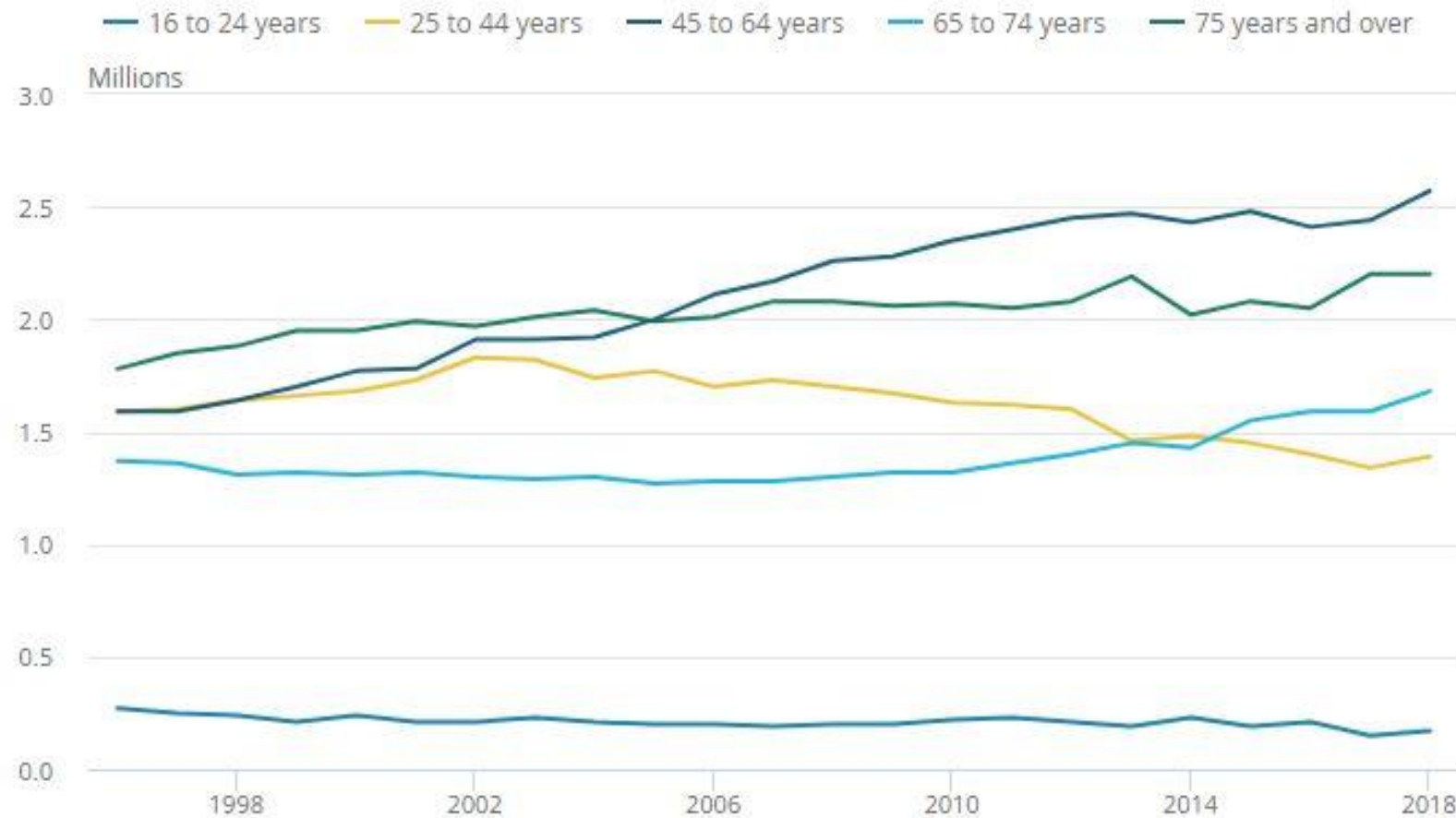
1. What implications result from the experience of broken homes or broken relationships?
2. What impact would you say that these things could have on our sense of acceptance and belonging?



Acceptance: Families

Figure 4: People aged 45 to 64 years and 65 to 74 years have experienced the largest increases in living alone in recent years

The number of people living alone by age group, UK, 1996 to 2018



Source:

Office of
National
Statistics (ONS)



Children of God

3 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3



Adopted as sons

¹ What I am saying is that as long as an heir is under age, he is no different from a slave. ² The heir is subject to his father until the time set by his father. ³ So also we, who were under the elements of the world, until the set time had fulfilled us, we were under the law, that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁴ When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Spirit into our hearts, crying out, 'Abba,^[c] Father.' So you are no longer slaves, but God's children; and since you are his children, God has made you also an heir.

FOOTNOTES ✕

The Greek word for *adoption to sonship* is a legal term referring to the full legal standing of an adopted male heir in Roman culture.

Galatians 4:6





Basis of Acceptance

Things people say: Right or Wrong?

#1: "We can't forgive ourselves"

#2: "We just need to accept ourselves for who we are"

#3: "God accepts us as we are."



Who Am I in Christ?

I am Accepted

- I am God's child (John 1:12)
- I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)
- I have been justified (Romans 5:1)
- I have been bought with a price. I belong to God. (1 Cor 6:20)
- I am a member of Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:27)
- I am a saint (Ephesians 1:1)
- I have been adopted as God's child (Ephesians 1:5)
- I have direct access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph 2:18)
- I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins (Colossians 1:14)

From Victory over Darkness, Neil Anderson



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