



Scripture

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.⁶ For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"⁸ and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:4-10 ESV)

Outline

Big Idea: Jesus is the source of our identity

Point 1. We are living stones (vv4-6)

Point 2. We are a royal priesthood (vv7-9a)

Point 3. We are God's special possession (vv9b-10)

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker: What is your “dream house” like? Where would it be?

Point 1: We are living stones (vv4-6)

- What similarities does Peter point to between Christ experience and that of these people?
- What is the significance of our being “living stones” in this building God is constructing?
- How is Christ a cornerstone? Why would people rather stumble over this stone than build their lives on it?

Point 2: We are a royal priesthood (vv7-9a)

- For the Jewish people, what was the role of a priest?
- Why would it have been difficult for Peter’s readers to think of themselves as priests? In what ways is it difficult for you to think of yourself as a priest of God?

Point 3: We are God’s special possession (vv9b-10)

- What are the four major descriptions that Peter uses for our identity in verse 9? Elaborate a little bit on what each of these means.
- How do these last two verses shape the big “why” of our new identity and the Christian life?

Application Questions:

- What is one specific thing that you can do this week to live out your identity in Christ?
 - As a living stone?
 - As a priest?
 - As God’s special possession?

Your Prayer

Write out a three-sentence prayer based off this passage.