

2. Learn to make Him precious to you.

"... rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him ..." vs.4

3. See him rejected for you.

Because His heart was focused on the joy of knowing that you would be His, He endured the agony of the cross and conquered its humiliation, and now sits exalted at the right hand of the throne of God! Hebrews 12:2 TPT

No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. John 10:18

When you see yourself being that precious to him that he'd be rejected for you, that will turn him precious to you and that will make him your cornerstone.

### Questions for Group Studies:

1. What part of the message resonated the most with you?

2. Have you experienced church where grace is necessary to co-exist, or where ideas and doctrines need to be compatible? How do you see the difference between those two concepts playing out?

3. How does the idea of being a "priest" of God hit you? Name some ways you can offer your priestly duty to God that you understood from this message.

4. In point 3 I offer three necessities to be a confident priest, which one of those three do you need to work on the most? (Christ as my foundation; Christ as most precious to me; 3. Seeing Christ being rejected for me.



## How Exactly Do I Live Out the Christian Life? 1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—<sup>5</sup>*you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.* <sup>6</sup>For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," <sup>8</sup>and, "A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. *This is God's Word*

### I. What We Are Called to Be

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone— ...<sup>5</sup>*you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house...* vs. 4,5

**So what does actually mean?** "...*you also, like living stones, ...*"

1. You can change anything about yourself that's been broken by sin.

And "...*are being built into a spiritual house...*"

2. "Believers cannot be realized apart from community with other believers."

*There is only one Body and one Spirit, and we have been called to one hope. There is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and only one God, who is the Father of us all, who is over all, is through all and is in all.* Ephesians 4:4-6

## **II. What we're called to do.**

"... to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." vs 5

### **So what does it mean to be a priest?**

In the Old Testament, it was the priests of the tribe of Levi, who offered sacrifices exclusively on behalf of the people of Israel.

*In fact, if you, as a non-priest, decided you were going to build an altar in your back yard and offer sacrifices, you'd be stoned to death.*

"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrew 13:15,16

According to the book of Hebrews Jesus Christ atoned for our sins once for all. He's the priest who mediates the presence of God to us once for all.

### **Two services we share according to Hebrews 13:**

1. "...the fruit of lips that confess his name."

Anytime you simply share out of your heart the truths about God, it is because God has empowered you as a priest to that end.

2. "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

There are ways to share Jesus in word, but there are also ways to share Jesus in deeds.

"For I tell you the truth, throughout history there has never been a man who surpasses John the Baptizer. Yet the least of those who now experience heaven's kingdom realm will become even greater than he. Matthew 11:11TPT

### **This means is two things.**

1. Every Christian has a spiritual gift. This means you have certain talents. Use them.

2. You're not here by accident. Some needs only you can see. Some people only you can reach.

If we're not being fit together as a priesthood of all believers, then we're not the church God wants us to be.

### **III. Where we get the confidence to do this?**

"As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God..."  
...<sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, vs. 4,5

"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, vs. 7

As you come to the Living Stone you as living stones will have the power to not only change your own life but to also influence the change in other people's lives just as Jesus did.

### **How do I do that?"**

1. Jesus needs to be your foundation.

It is not enough to "just" believe in Jesus, rather...

"...the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." vs. 6

As a Christian you are this: "...you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. vs.5 (And) ...you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. vs.9