

THE CORNERSTONE



what
REALLY
matters

1 Peter 2:4-10, ESV – ⁴ 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.

Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of June 14, 2020

1 Peter 2:4-10

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week, we were reminded that Jesus is both the foundation of the church and the one who builds it. What role do followers of Christ have in this process?
- 2 How does Jesus' authority over the church comfort His believers? How does His authority compel believers to live?
- 3 The sacrifice that God asks for now is a holy life. What does a holy life look like?

DIGGING DEEPER

A ***Ephesians 2:20-22, ESV** – ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

***Romans 9:30-33, ESV** – ³⁰ What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹ but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ as it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."*

- 4 Looking at the passages above, contrast those who stumble on the cornerstone and those who are built on the cornerstone?

5

How does “the whole structure grow into a holy temple in the Lord”?

6

What needs to happen for the church to move towards unity? What needs to change in your life to be a part of that process?

B

Romans 12:1-2, ESV – *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

7

Paul uses the word “appeal” when addressing the Romans, and all believers. What level of importance does his word choice convey? How much of a priority should this be in our lives?

8

What does it mean to present our bodies as a living sacrifice? How is this a form of worship?

9

Paul is calling his readers to a commitment to being changed, or transformed, by God. In what ways have you answered that call? In what ways have you not answered that call? What needs to change in your life for God to be in control and able to transform you?

TAKING IT HOME

This week, we were challenged to act as people called by God. We were reminded that this does not happen on our own accord. It can only happen by the transforming power of God, through the Holy Spirit. What was your “big take away” from this message? Share with your group or accountability partner what God is laying on your heart and pray for unity among His holy people.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 118:22

Isaiah 28:16, 56:7

1 Corinthians 3:9

Hebrews 3:4-6