

The Community of God

The Life and Letters of Peter

Bible Text(s) Used

1 Peter 1:25b – 2:5ⁱ

Peter the Unlikely Disciple

Peter's life reminds us that God uses unlikely people for His purposes. Though once impulsive and flawed, Peter became the leader of the early church, writing letters that continue to guide us in faith and practice today.

Reflection Question: How does Peter's transformation encourage you about how God can use your life?

The Word That Brings Growth

Peter urges us to lay aside malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and evil speaking, and instead crave the pure milk of God's Word. Just as a baby grows through nourishment, our spiritual growth depends on a steady intake of Scripture, helping us to mature in Christ.

Reflection Question: What steps can you take this week to make God's Word a greater part of your daily life?

Jesus, the Living Stone

Peter contrasts Jesus, the Living Stone, with the lifeless idols of his time. Though rejected by men, Jesus was chosen and precious to God. Through Him, we too become living stones—our changed lives bearing witness that ‘God was here.’ Like stones marking God’s encounters in Scripture, we stand as monuments to His presence.

Reflection Question: In what ways can your life be a visible monument to God’s presence this week?

Fitted Together as God’s House

A single stone cannot form a house; it must be joined with others. In the same way, our faith is not meant to be lived alone. God designed us to fit together in community, each with unique gifts and purposes. Together, we provide strength, support, and a witness that God dwells among His people.

Reflection Question: How can you lean into community and use your gifts to strengthen others in the church?

A Royal Priesthood

Peter calls believers a royal priesthood. Unlike the old system of temples and sacrifices, every Christian now offers spiritual sacrifices—our lives, our praise, our giving, and our acts of love. These sacrifices, offered through Jesus, have eternal significance and proclaim God’s grace to the world.

Reflection Question: What spiritual sacrifice is God prompting you to offer in this season of your life?

Conclusion

Peter paints a powerful image: Jesus is the cornerstone, and we are living stones, fitted together into God's spiritual house. We are His temple, His priests, and His testimony in the world. Our love, unity, and sacrifices proclaim not only that 'God was here' but also that 'God is here.'

Reflection Question: How can your life this week proclaim the reality that 'God is here' in your community?

¹ ²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever."

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

A Living Stone and a Holy People

² So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

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.