

## **At the Movies: Bonhoeffer Pastor Spy Assassin    August 24, 2025**

**1** So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. **2** Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, **3** now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

**4** You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

**5** And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. **6** As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem,  
chosen for great honor,  
and anyone who trusts in him  
will never be disgraced."

**7** Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him, "The stone that the builders rejected  
has now become the cornerstone."

**8** And,  
"He is the stone that makes people stumble,  
the rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

**9** But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

**10** "Once you had no identity as a people;  
now you are God's people.  
Once you received no mercy;  
now you have received God's mercy."

**11** Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. **12** Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

— 1 Peter 2:1-12

### ***Discussion/Journal Questions***

Share one of your favorite drama movies. What makes this movie so memorable?

Have two or three people read 1 Peter 2:1-12 out loud slowly. After a some time of reflection, ask each other what words, phrases, or ideas stand out to everyone. What questions come to mind as you meditate on this scripture?

The question we asked with Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Assassin is “What kind of community are we?” In your own words, what makes a Christian community different from any other kind of community?

1 Peter 2:2 instructs us to crave pure spiritual milk like newborn infants. Meditate on that image for a moment. Do you crave after Jesus and His Word like a newborn craves milk? Why or why not?

Jesus is called the Cornerstone, and we are the other stones making up God's temple. What is the purpose of a cornerstone? And how does Jesus as the Cornerstone relate to us?

Through this passage, Peter emphasizes the fact that we are a holy and chosen people, comparing Christ-followers to the Jewish temple and priests. What does it look like to be holy as a Christ-follower living in America in 2025?

In 1 Peter 2:9, what is the result of us living as a chosen people, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation? What happens when Christ-followers do not live holy lives?