

LIVING STONES

BUILT BY GOD. | CHOSEN FOR A PURPOSE.



1 PETER 2:4-5

This powerful message challenges us to understand our identity as 'living stones' in God's spiritual temple, drawing from 1 Peter 2:4-5. We're reminded that God doesn't evaluate us the way the world does—not by our appearance, our past mistakes, or our failures. Instead, He asks one transformative question:

'Can I build with you?' Just as stones in biblical times were chosen for their strength, stability, and placement rather than their beauty, we are being shaped and positioned by the Master Builder for His divine purposes. The message confronts our tendency to rely on our own strength and highlights three critical truths: strength begins when pride dies, repentance begins, and dependence on God increases. We're called to move from courage to confidence, understanding that the early church wasn't filled with naturally confident people—Peter denied Jesus, Thomas doubted—yet these same individuals became world-changers when they surrendered completely to God. The challenge before us is clear: we must stop

straddling the fence between the world and the kingdom, stop treating church as an extracurricular activity, and recognize that we're not spectators but participators in God's grand design. Our greatest value isn't in our individual strength or stability, but in our placement—being exactly where God has positioned us to fulfill His purposes.

Key Points:

- Believers are "living stones" - what was once dead has been made alive through Christ

- **Stones in biblical construction were chosen for three qualities: strength, stability, and placement**
- **True strength begins when pride dies, repentance begins, and dependence on God increases**
- **Strength is found in Christ, not in ourselves**
- "when I am weak, then I am strong"
- **Courage comes before confidence - the early church lacked confidence but had courage**
- **Stability requires making a decision - no more one foot in the world, one foot in the kingdom**

- **A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways**
- **Power is only as effective as its connection**
 - **believers must stay connected to God**
- **Placement is the stone's greatest value - the builder (God) chooses the location, not the stone**
- **Fellowship and community are not extracurricular activities but essential to kingdom life**
- **The church should be adding to its numbers daily through unified witness**

Scripture Reference:

- **1 Peter 2:4-5 (primary focus)**
- **2 Corinthians 12:10**
- **James 1:8**
- **James 4:4, 8**
- **Romans 10:9**
- **Philippians 1:6**
- **Acts 2:42-46**
- **Proverbs 16:18**
- **John 3:16**