## Reflecting on 1 Peter 2:4-10 "Taking Refuge in Our Identity" November 14, 2021

Introduction: This week's text is all about our identity: who we are as believers and who we are not. When taken in the context of the book of 1 Peter, these verses provide a powerful reminder that when we face difficulties, we need to remember who God made us to be. Our identity can be summarized in three components:

- 1. Don't forget who you are not (7-8, 10)
- 2. Don't forget who you are (5-6; 9)
- 3. Don't forget what God designed you to do (5, 9)

## **Discussion Starters**

1. What part of the message today caught your attention? What made this part stick out to you? 2. In discussing the question of who we are not, we looked carefully at verses 7-8. What is the core difference between someone who is truly a Christian and someone who isn't? Is there any wiggle room for someone to be a "sort-of Christian"?

3. What is the significance of Peter calling Christ a living stone in verse 5, and then calling believers living stones in verse 6? What sort of connection is he trying to make?

- 4. Peter uses several descriptions for believers in this text:
  - Living stones
  - A Spiritual house
  - Chosen race
  - Royal priesthood
  - Holy nation
  - A people of his possession
  - Receivers of mercy

Which of these is most meaningful to you and why?

5. In verses 5 and 9, Peter gives a "result statement." In other words, he says that one's position in Christ should result in certain things. What are the two results, and how are they showing up in your life?

- 6. The first result, "to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" is rich with meaning. Discuss what it means to offer acceptable worship to God in light of the following passages:
  - 1 Samuel 15:22
  - Psalm 51:17
  - John 4:23-24
  - Romans 12:1