

1 PETER

PEOPLE OF PURPOSE
IN A WORLD OF CHAOS

Peter writes to Jewish and Gentile Christians who are suffering for their faith in Jesus. In this passage, he encourages them that they, collectively, are the church. **Our foundation** is Jesus Christ, the Living Stone, is more magnificent than any 570-ton stone in Solomon's temple, and we are living stones being built on Him. **Our identity?** We are Christians: a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, just like the Israelites. **Our purpose:** to make so much of Jesus, with our mouths and our lives, that others can't help but know and glorify God.

- 1. Icebreaker:** Where did you grow up, and how did you say "you" plural in the area you lived? Y'all? Yinz? You guys?
- 2. Read 1 Peter 2:4-12.**
 - What caught your attention in this passage?
 - And what else?
 - What do you learn and love about God in this scripture?
 - Did anything in this passage make you wonder?
- 3. Sermon Overview**
 - What was the main point of the sermon or biggest takeaway?
 - What resonated with you or caught your interest?
 - What challenged you?
- Jesus is the Living Stone, the Cornerstone. Name something about Him that makes Him awe inspiring to you. Why does this quality/characteristic stand out to you?
- Jesus is defined as a stumbling stone, an offense. What does that mean? How would you answer someone who says you do not have to believe in Jesus to go to heaven?
- Comment on this: If no one is ever put off by "our" Jesus, then we need to ask ourselves, are we following the Jesus of the Bible?
- We talked about Peter's audience: Jewish and Gentile Christians who were suffering for their faith in Jesus. Have you ever suffered for your faith? If so, what did that entail?
- How can we practically live out our call to be a Royal Priesthood?
- From the sermon, it is so apparent that God treasures us. **Do we treasure Him?** What would that look like in our lives if we really did?