

1. Remember Who Jesus Is vs 4-8

The Living Stone

The Corner-stone

The Stumbling Stone

2. Reimagine What the Church actually is. Vs 5, 9

Living Stones

Royal Priests

A Chosen Race

A Holy Nation

A People belonging to God

A People of amazing purpose

3. Never forget where we came from vs 10

Darkness to "light"

"Not-a-people" but now "people-of-God"

Condemned but now free



Opening question

- ◆ What would you say is the main message of this passage (vs 4-10)? Try to summarize in one or two words or sentences what Peter wants his readers to realize?
- ◆ Do you think of yourself as a "priest?" (v 5) Why or why not? What "spiritual sacrifices" do believers offer now? See Psalm 51:17; Romans 12:1-2; 15:15-16; Hebrews 13:15-16.

Scripture: I Peter 2:1-3

- ◆ Why was it important for Peter to talk about those who rejected the stone? How does that help put things into perspective for believers under persecution?
- ◆ What are the implications of verse 9 for your personal identity and life mission? What are the implications for SCC as a church?
- ◆ Verse 10 contrasts our identity before salvation and after. How would you describe your "Once you were" life compared to your "but now in Christ" life?
- ◆ Discuss the meaning of some of the metaphors Peter uses to describe the church. How would those help the people Peter was writing to? How can they help us today? Living Stones being built into a spiritual house; A holy, royal priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices; A chosen race; A holy nation; A people belonging to God's family, etc.

Application Questions

- ◆ How does living out a redeemed life effect the unbelievers around you?
- ◆ Is God burdening your heart with something specific to standing firm as one redeemed?
- ◆ What would this passage have to teach someone who might say, "I don't need the church and other Christians? I can be a good Christian all by myself."