

Different

Different: Temptation From Worldliness

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

Key Scripture

4 And coming to Him as to a living stone, which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For this is contained in Scripture: "Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed." 7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, "The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone," 8 and, "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul. 12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation. 1 Peter 2:4-12

Key Points

1. Treasuring Christ defines a different/new race of people.
2. Treasuring Christ is meant to be spread.

Big Idea: As a believer, you have been chosen by God to be set apart as a holy priesthood to reflect His glory. As such we are challenged to rise to the level of our calling by resisting the temptation of worldliness that seeks to defile our reputation and the gospel.

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Pastor Dre asks, what are the passions of the flesh that wage war with your soul?
- How does your identity help or hinder your battle against these things?
- In what ways do you struggle to see yourself as God sees you.

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Who were you before you received His mercy? Read 1 Peter 2:1-3
- Read 1 Peter 2:9-12. What message does my life, as-is, send to people around me?
- Pastor Dre said the who comes before the do. Why do you think this is so important?

Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- What is the connection between the proclaimed word and living out our faith in community
- What is your reputation with nonbelievers in your life?
- Why does worldliness have such a damaging effect on our reputation with nonbelievers?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, You've given us an incredible identity. We are chosen by You to be holy, part of Your royal family of priests. You called us to be good and to do good. So, we're asking You to give us the opportunities and the bravery to live out our callings this week. Amen.

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Tell your group or someone in your group at least one thing you're going to stop so you can live differently.
- How can you live that not just tells, but shows people God's goodness?
- What can you do differently to lead more people to Jesus?

Dinner Discussion.

- What does it mean to be —living stones of a spiritual house?
- Why is it important to maintain a good reputation with unbelievers?
- In what ways are you surprised by the lofty designs for your life?

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over online.

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