

Cornerstone [The Rock Of My Salvation] Discussion Guide

Summary

This sermon explores Jesus as our cornerstone and firm foundation, drawing from Isaiah 28:16, Daniel 2, and Acts 4. Jonathan examines how the religious leaders rejected Jesus, yet God made Him the cornerstone upon which everything is built. Through Peter's bold declaration to the religious council, we learn that salvation is found in no one else but Jesus Christ. The message challenges believers to examine whether they are truly building their lives on the solid rock of Christ or on shifting foundations like approval, possessions, or their own strength. Just as a cornerstone determines the alignment of an entire building, Jesus must be the reference point for every aspect of our lives.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with grateful hearts, knowing that You are our solid rock and firm foundation. As we gather together to study Your Word, we ask that You open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to set aside our distractions and preconceived notions so that we can truly hear from You. Lord, we pray that You would speak to each person here according to their specific needs and circumstances. Whether someone is encountering You for the first time or has walked with You for years, meet them where they are. Give us ears to hear, hearts to receive, and the courage to respond to Your truth. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one thing you've tried to build or assemble that didn't turn out quite as planned? What went wrong?

Key Verses

- Isaiah 28:16
- Daniel 2:31-45
- Psalm 118:22
- Acts 4:4-12
- Romans 10:9
- John 14:1-6

Questions

- What does it mean for Jesus to be the 'cornerstone' of our lives, and how is this different from just knowing about Him?
- The religious leaders rejected Jesus because He didn't fit their expectations of what the Messiah should be. How might we sometimes reject God's work in our lives because it doesn't match our expectations?
- Peter boldly declared that 'there is salvation in no one else' to the very people who crucified Jesus. What does this exclusive claim about salvation mean to you personally?
- When Peter said Jesus is 'the stone that you builders rejected,' what are some things in our culture that people often build their lives on instead of Christ?
- How can we tell the difference between building our lives on Jesus versus building on 'shifting sand' like approval, success, or our own strength?

- Jesus told Thomas 'I am the way' rather than giving him directions. How does this change how we approach decisions and uncertainty in our lives?
- What are some practical ways we can align our daily decisions with Jesus as our foundation, especially when facing difficult choices?
- The sermon mentioned that when we fail, we don't have to rebuild our entire identity because our foundation remains secure. How does this truth impact how you view mistakes and setbacks?

Life Application

This week, identify one area of your life where you've been building on 'shifting sand' rather than on Christ as your foundation. This could be seeking security through work performance, relationships, financial stability, or approval from others. Each day, consciously choose to surrender that area to Jesus and ask Him how to align that part of your life with His character and truth. When you feel tempted to return to the old foundation, remind yourself that Jesus is your cornerstone and pray for His strength to keep building on the solid rock.

Key Takeaways

- Jesus is the cornerstone prophesied throughout Scripture, from Isaiah to Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, and He is the only foundation that will never crumble.
- The religious leaders rejected Jesus because He didn't fit their expectations, reminding us that we must be careful not to reject God's work when it doesn't match our plans.

- Salvation is found in no one else but Jesus Christ... this is both exclusive but also extremely merciful because it doesn't depend on our perfection but on His secure foundation.
- Building our lives on Jesus as our cornerstone means aligning our decisions, relationships, and responses to life's challenges with His character and truth rather than our own understanding.
- When storms come... and they will come... the question isn't whether or not we'll face difficulties, but are we building on the solid rock of Christ or on shifting foundations that will fail us.

Ending Prayer

Father God, thank You for providing Jesus as our cornerstone, the solid rock upon which we can build our lives. We confess that too often we've tried to build on foundations that shift and crumble; our own strength, others' approval, or worldly success. Help us to truly make Jesus the foundation of every area of our lives. When storms come, remind us that our security is not in circumstances but in You. Give us the courage to live boldly for You, just as Peter did before the religious council. Help us to trust that You are the way, the truth, and the life, and that in You we will not be shaken. Transform our hearts to reflect the truth that Jesus is our cornerstone, and may our lives be a testimony to Your faithfulness. In Jesus' precious name we pray, Amen.