



LESSON 3

1 Peter 2:4-10

1. How did last week's lesson inspire you to live differently and to which truth, verse or insight did you cling?

2. Prayerfully read **1 Peter 2:4-10** in which Peter presents Jesus as the living Stone, the precious cornerstone. Make note of the phrases Peter uses to remind followers of Jesus they have a new identity and a higher purpose. How are you challenged or corrected by Peter's view of the body of Christ?

3. a) Who are Peter's readers - and all believers - according to **v4-5**?

- b) Discuss how every believer might be called to live out their new role.

4. Look up the definition of the word "cornerstone," which is first used by Peter in **V6**. What is the function of a cornerstone and how are we built to function in relation to Jesus as our cornerstone? For more insight, read **Ephesians 2:19-22**.

5. What do you see as the main points Peter communicates in **1 Peter 2:7-8** in which he continues to quote from the Hebrew Scriptures? Jesus used similar Scripture in **Matthew 21:42-45**.

6. Reflect on why Jesus is so precious to God as well as to the believer (see **1 Peter 2:4,6,7**) Take some time to express the preciousness of Jesus in your own words.

7. Look back to Peter's past and read **Acts 4:8-12** to hear his response to the rulers and elders when questioned about the healing of a lame man. What does Peter's account reveal about his view of Jesus?

8. a) From **1 Peter 2:9**, what phrases does Peter use to describe the identity and role of those who follow Jesus?

b) *Challenge*: Read **Exodus 19:3-6** and **Deuteronomy 7:6-8**. The Lord gave the Israelites a new identity. Why do you think Peter uses similar phrases in his letter?

9. What is true about the believers to whom Peter is writing according to **1 Peter 2:10**? How is this new reality reflected in your life?

10. **LIVING AS STRANGERS: CHANGED BY MERCY**

Peter reminds us that as God's chosen people, believers receive the mercy of God. Mercy often relates to forgiveness or the withholding of punishment even though justly deserved. See **Psalm 51:1** and **Luke 6:36**. As recipients of God's mercy, we are to be merciful to others. Ask God to reveal if you are withholding the mercy and forgiveness you have received from Him. What is He laying on your heart as a next step?

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST