

## 1 Peter 2:1-10 (New International Version)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup>now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone,  
and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

"The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,<sup>[b]</sup><sup>[c]</sup> <sup>8</sup>and,

"A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall."<sup>[d]</sup>

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

### **Footnotes:**

- a. [1 Peter 2:6](#) Isaiah 28:16
- b. [1 Peter 2:7](#) Or *cornerstone*
- c. [1 Peter 2:7](#) Psalm 118:22
- d. [1 Peter 2:8](#) Isaiah 8:14

**OASIS: You are God's People, I Peter 2: 1-10**

Possible starter question: What do like and/or dislike about the idea that YOU are “the people of God”?

Transitional comment: Today, we are going to look at a potent passage from the Apostle Peter. He provides both vision and practical advice, the kind that can deeply shape us in becoming God's people.

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead your study (if you haven't already prayed)

Read and overview observations:

- Let's listen as someone reads our passage aloud. (Or 3 readers for the 3 segments).
- Take several minutes by yourself to study this passage. Look for repeated words and ideas. Look for significant contrasts.

Possibly share observations about repeated words and ideas, and key contrasts for 2-3 minutes.

First section (v. 1-3):

- O v. 1 The *therefore*, refers to Peter's prior affirming comment (vs.1:22) that the people have developed sincere love for one another. What attitudes and behaviors does Peter now tell them to remove?
  - I What do these terms mean? (feel free to consult a dictionary!) What do these issues have in common?
    - A Any one of these that you feel particularly prone toward? What difference would it make if we eliminated such tendencies?
- O vs. 2-3 What hopes does Peter have for the people?
  - I In what ways are we to be like “newborn babies”?  
*(n.b. Read 1:23-25 aloud; these verses explain more about being born and the references to the “word of God” which links closely with spiritual milk.)*
    - A Take a moment to talk about some ways that people in your LC have “tasted that the Lord is good.”

Second section (v. 4-8):

- O v. 4 As we come to Jesus, what does Peter want us to realize about Him?
- O v. 5 As Peter continues the metaphor, he says that we are like “living stones.” In what ways is that so? For what purposes?
  - I How might these verses (and insights) really encouraged the early Christians who received this letter?
- O vs. 6-8 In these three verses, two different responses to the “Stone” are described. What differences do you observe?

Third section (v. 9-10):

- O vs. 9-10 What are some of the qualities or characteristics that God intends for his people?
  - I Why do you think Peter uses so many terms from the Old Testament?
- O What are the privileges and responsibilities that are included?

Summary

Peter has really given the early church God's vision for their life together in this world.

- A As a Life Community, as we reflect on this passage, with what do we relate?
  - What in this passage has affirmed our life together?
  - What has challenged us to become better together?

Prayer together: that we might be better built into a spiritual house together—for God's good purposes!

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Text is on other page or [www.Biblegateway.com](http://www.Biblegateway.com)

- a. BIG idea: We have the great privilege and responsibility of being God's people NOW.
- b. Key verse/idea: I Peter 2:9: **“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”**
- c. KEY: O = Observation; I = Interpretation; A = Application (or C = Challenge).

Advice to study leaders:

- d. Complement your OIA questions with “process questions” (what else? what more? What do others of you see/think?).
- e. Determine the core questions you'll ask (know which to skip if pressed for time).
- f. Always reword questions in words are comfortable for you (and, if the question doesn't make sense to you, then discard it.)
- g. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. How long do you wait? Take your time; don't rush people but encourage their participation. And avoid answering your own questions!
- h. Timing/pacing: allocate your time and move forward gently, with a steady pace.
- i. Application: Pace the study to conclude with “difference making” application.
- j. Secondary texts—use other texts very sparingly, even if they are relevant. Otherwise, other texts will push you more into the “teacher role,” rather than that of facilitator. It also can cause some people to feel distracted or de-powered.
- k. If you are utilizing this “on-line” study and not part of the OASIS course, I recommend that you get the 1-volume commentary entitled New Bible Commentary, Revised (21<sup>st</sup> Century Edition, IVP). It is well worth the \$40.