

JESUS - Our Living Hope

A Study of the Book of 1st Peter

Lesson Three

Gold River Calvary Chapel

Women's Bible Fellowship

Fall 2021



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Summary: This week we will learn the privilege of who we are in Christ.

Step One: Read the Word

“In Him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” Colossians 2:3

This study uses the Christian Standard Bible translation (CSB), which is provided for you in each lesson in Step One. Please use that version to fill in blanks or answer questions, but you are encouraged to read as many translations as you like in order to get a fuller understanding of the scripture.

In Step One, try to determine the “who, what, where, when or how” of the passage. Look for words that are repeated often, such as “beloved”, “suffering,” “good works” or “chosen.” Circle any key words and underline phrases that stick out to you. Use the column to the right to jot down any notes, scripture references, or questions you might have.

Note: There is an example of how to do Step One in the Introduction to this study. You can also use the “Bible Study Aids” included in the Introduction to gain more understanding of the passage of scripture.

Remember to always pray before you read God's Word, asking the Holy Spirit to open the scripture to your understanding.

Complete Step One by reading and marking up 2 Peter 2:1-10, beginning on the next page.

1 Peter 2:1-10

Christian Standard Bible

The Living Stone and a Holy People

2 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander. ² Like newborn infants, desire the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow up into your salvation, ³ if **you have tasted that the Lord is good.** ⁴ As you come to him, a living stone—rejected by people but chosen and honored by God— ⁵ you yourselves, as living stones, a spiritual house, are being built to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

**See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and honored cornerstone,
and the one who believes in him
will never be put to shame.**

⁷ So honor will come to you who believe; but for the unbelieving,

**The stone that the builders rejected—
this one has become the cornerstone,⁸ and
A stone to stumble over,
and a rock to trip over.**

They stumble because they disobey the word; they were destined for this.

⁹ But you are **a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises** of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Step 2: Consider the Word

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” Colossians 3:16

Re-read 1 Peter 2: 1-10 and answer the questions below. (Remember to use the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) translation provided in Step One to answer).

1. a. Review 1 Peter 1:22-25. Why does Peter say “therefore” at the beginning of Chapter 2:1? What should be our motivation to “rid ourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander?”

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- b. Look up the definition of each of the sins against others that Peter cites in verse 1, below:

malice:

deceit:

hypocrisy:

envy:

slander:

c. Galatians 5:22 says: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

Next to each of the words you defined in (b), write the aspect(s) of the fruit of the Holy Spirit that you feel best represents the opposite and appropriate Spirit-led response instead. For example: malice – opposite is kindness, goodness or gentleness.

d. What does this tell you about our need for the Holy Spirit’s help in ridding ourselves of these sinful attitudes and responses toward others?

e. According to Romans 13:14, who are we to “put on” instead of these fleshly sins?

2. See Verse 2.

a. Instead of the sins of pride and self-seeking cited in verse 1, what are we to act like instead? Why?

b. Why do you think Peter used the analogy of a newborn baby desiring milk for a Christian desiring the Word of God?

c. What does this tell you about the relationship between humility and our growth in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ?

3. See verse 4. Although rejected by men, how did God view the persecuted brothers and sisters to whom Peter was writing? Why is this perspective still important to the church today?

4. See verse 5.
 - a. What is the body of Christ being built up into? For what purpose?

 - b. If each believer is a living stone, and part of a bigger spiritual house, what does this say about the necessity of Christians to be part of a local church body in order to fulfill God's purposes in their lives?

 - c. In the Old Testament, priests had special access into the holy place of the temple to minister to the Lord, officiated the sacrifices, and served as mediators or reconcilers between the people and God. What do the following verses tell us about these roles in our holy priesthood now?

Access - Romans 5:1-2:

(cont. next page)

Sacrifices - Romans 12:1, Hebrews 13:15:

Reconciler – 2 Corinthians 5:18-20:

- d. Who is our ultimate High Priest? See Hebrews 8:1
5. See verses 6-8. See also Isaiah 28:16 and Matthew 21:42-43.
- a. Based on these scriptures, who is the Cornerstone that Peter is talking about?
 - b. According to Britannica.com, “A **cornerstone** is traditionally the first **stone** laid for a structure, with all other **stones** laid in reference to this stone, thus determining the position of the entire building.”
- Given this definition, what does this tell you about our relationship as living stones to the Cornerstone of the spiritual house mentioned in verse 5? Why is our obedience important to the building up of the spiritual house?
- c. Why do you think Peter wanted to remind these persecuted and rejected exiles that they would never be put to shame for following Jesus? Is this true of every believer today?

d. Verse 8, in the New King James Version, reads: "A stone of stumbling
And a rock of offense," describing the Cornerstone. List some ways in which unbelievers
"stumble" or "take offense" at Jesus today:

e. According to Peter in verse 8, why do they stumble?

6. See verse 9

a. List below the four things we are in Jesus Christ:

1.

2.

3.

4.

b. According to verse 9, why did God give us these new identities in Jesus?

7. See verse 10. What does this tell us about our new identity?

A Note on our Royal Priesthood: In the Old Testament, Kings were all descended from King David and the tribe of Judah. But priests were all descended from the tribe of Levi, and specifically from Aaron, Moses' brother. A King could never perform the duties of a priest, and a priest could never serve as king (see 2 Chronicles 26:16-21). Yet, through Jesus, we have been given a royal priesthood, because Jesus, who is descended from the tribe of Judah, is both King and High Priest (see Hebrews 7:11-18, and Hebrews 9:11 for more explanation). Thus, as adopted children of God through Christ, we share in a *royal priesthood*.)

Memory Verse: “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” (1 Peter 2:9)

Write the memory verse down below:

Step 3: Walk in the Word

“...As citizens of heaven, live your life worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Philippians 1:27

Re-read 1 Peter 2:1-10 and answer the questions below:

1. Verse 1 tells us to “rid ourselves” of self-centered attitudes and responses to other people. Are any of the sins specified in verse 1 a particular struggle or temptation for you? Can you think of a time when you exhibited the fruit of the Spirit instead in your response to a situation or another person who offended you? Share the result below:

2. Verses 2-3. Have you tasted that the Lord is good in your life? If so, what practical steps have you taken or can take to “desire the pure milk of the Word” and walk in obedience to it? Describe below:

3. Verses 4-5, and verses 9-10 describe your new identity in Christ.

a. Which of these identities describing you in the body of Christ is most encouraging to you and why?

A living stone;

A Holy and Royal Priesthood;

A member of a chosen race and a holy nation;

A people of God;

A receiver of mercy.

b. Which of these identities do you need to believe more fully about yourself, trusting that God will equip those he calls? Why?

4. See verses 4-7. Have you experienced rejection for your faith in the Cornerstone, Jesus Christ, who the builders (the religious community) also rejected? If so, thank the Lord below that you will never be ashamed because of him, and that God has *chosen* and *honored* you as he did His Son!

Write the memory verse below:

**“But you are a _____ race, a _____
priesthood, a _____ nation, a people for his
_____, so that you may proclaim the _____ of
the one who called you out of _____ into his marvelous
_____.” (1 Peter 2:9)**

What lesson or truth meant the most to you this week?

Journal a prayer below, thanking God for that truth.

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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