

Bible Study

1 Peter 2:1-10

Opening Question:

1. In our world we often define ourselves through differences rather than similarities.
 - (a) What are some examples of this that come to mind?
 - (b) How are labels used unfairly or unkindly?
 - (c) How do Christians get labelled by the world? How are Christians labelled by God?

Read 1 Peter 2:1-10

Discussion Questions

1. What does this passage say about who Jesus is?
 - (a) When the bible uses the metaphor of a rock to describe God, what do you think that metaphor means?
 - (b) In this passage Peter uses the metaphor of rock in both a positive and negative way? What is Peter trying to tell us?
 - (c) What is a cornerstone?
 - (d) Why is Jesus referred to as a living stone?

2. What does this passage say about who Christians are?
 - (a) How is the community of believers (the church) like the OT temple?
 - (b) How is the community of believers (the church) different to the OT temple?
 - (c) In what way are we living stones?
 - (d) In V5, what does Peter say that believers are to be? Is this new information? And what are they to do?

3. V2 tells us to crave the thing that will cause us to grow as Christians. How does Peter describe the thing we are to crave? Does this description make sense in light of the fact that we have been born again??
 - (a) Feeding and nurturing a baby is important for its survival. In what ways is this metaphor similar to a person who is new to the faith?
 - (b) How does a Christian receive nourishment?
 - (c) What might result if a Christian doesn't receive the spiritual food they need?

4. What are three action words in verses 1 & 2?
 - (a) Are these suggestions, helpful highlights, or necessities? Why?

5. What is Spiritual Sacrifice?

6. What is a person effectively doing when they reject Jesus according to v7-8?
 - (a) What should Christians' attitudes be to those who don't believe?
7. How could you being disobedient to Gd cause someone else to stumble?
8. How would you explain what it means to be born again to someone with no religious background?
9. How could we as a community fulfil our call to be God's spiritual temple on earth? How can we make sure that we are always building our spiritual temple with Jesus as the foundation stone?

Thought Points

- To understand this passage – with its living stones and spiritual houses, its chosen peoples, and royal priesthoods – we need to remind ourselves of all that has gone before in Israel's story
- Knowing that Christ gave the ultimate sacrifice (His own life) to redeem us from sin, this should motivate us in turn to love the people around us.
- Knowing that God's Word endures whereas the physical materials around us are temporary, also motivates us to love others
- The Church is made up of stones of "us" laid upon the foundation of Christ.
- The Church represents God to the world
- Because of Jesus we can now come directly into God's presence
- God has called us from darkness into the light. Our lives must now be different because we now know the truth.

Extra Reading

Exodus 19:5-6, 2 Samuel 22:2-4, Job 23:12-13, Psalm 1:1-2, Psalm 18:2, Psalm 19:7-11, Psalm 118:22,, Isaiah 8:14-15, Isaiah 28:15-16, Isaiah 61:6, Matthew 7:24-29, Mark 12:10-11, John 3:16-17, Romans 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 15:45, Ephesians 4:22-25, Colossians 3:2-10, 1 Timothy 4:8, and 2 Timothy 3:16, Hebrews 13:15-16, 1 Peter 1:23, 1 John 1:9, Rev 1:6, Rev 5:10

Personal Reflection:

- What are some things that you crave? Are the things that you crave "good" for you or "bad"?
- Do you see Christian growth as a goal of your Christian life?
- What barriers are in your life which prevent you from maturing spiritually?
- How is our church a reflection of this passage teaches? How is our church a building of faith? How could our church be a better building of faith? What could your role be?