

TALK IT OVER

How is everyone doing right now? Do you have any needs? (This past week may be the worst of 2020. Press in to people's needs right now. Validate feelings and steer them to God's words.)

Before you read the passage remind your few of the questions to think through. **HEAD**- What new thing did you discover? What did you learn about God? What did you learn about people? **HEART**- What will you take away from the discussion? **HANDS**- What will you do with what you've learned? Read Matthew 1 Peter 2:4-12 (On 2nd page. It's in the NLT version but feel free to read from a different one.) Once you've read the passages ask these questions:

HEAD

- What new thing did you discover in the story that you did not know before?
- What did you learn about God? (Why do you believe that God would specifically call out the way we treat "foreigners"? [Lev. 19:33-34] How does God transform us by renewing our minds? What does that mean? Why wouldn't God just declare himself to the world now? Why, do you think, he chooses to work through us?)
- What did you learn about people? (We have seen some ugly stuff this past week. Pastor Brad said that we should know 3 things: Know Who We Are, Know Whose We are, & Know What to Do. How do those 3 things change how we respond to 2020? To people with disagree with? Pastor Brad said that we will do 3 things in response: We will Love, Listen & Lead. What does that look like for you this week? This month? [Take some time to walk through the practical nature of those 3 things. This should take some time to think through.]

HEART

- What will you take away from this discussion? (What did God say to you?)

HANDS

- What will you do with what you have learned? (Who is God calling you to love? What are the things you need to listen to? How is God calling you to lead?)
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Hebrews 12:1-13. Think through the questions we ask weekly as you read.

Encourage your small group to do a watch party on Facebook with the LIVE Sunday service for our series **The Church: Defined** this Sunday. Ask them to invite coworkers and friends to watch with them at 10:10. Also, make sure to comment as you watch on the feed to encourage community and discussion.

Make sure to check in with your SG this week. We are all going through a lot. How can you pray for them? This is where the discipleship aspect comes in. Work towards identifying your 3 (that you can really pour into) and then your 1 (that person that will replicate what you're doing now). Take a few minutes each day and make a text or phone call to everyone in the group.

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Make sure to read ahead of time and either retell the story or have someone (multiple people) help you retelling the story. Make sure to use your update with points from Brad's sermon.

1 Peter 2:4-12 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁴ You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

⁵ And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests.^[a] Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.

⁶ As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem,^[b]
chosen for great honor,
and anyone who trusts in him
will never be disgraced."^[c]

⁷ Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him.^[d] But for those who reject him,

"The stone that the builders
rejected
has now become the
cornerstone."^[e]

⁸ And,

"He is the stone that makes people
stumble,
the rock that makes them fall."^[f]

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

⁹ But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests,^[g] a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

¹⁰ "Once you had no identity as a people;
now you are God's people.
Once you received no mercy;
now you have received God's mercy."^[h]

¹¹ Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. ¹² Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.