

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Good News, Week 11: Living the Good News

Introduction

Are you a builder, decorator, or remodeler or know someone who is? Talk about the skills needed to do that kind of work.

God's Word

Read 1 Peter 2:4-10 // See other side

1. Peter is referencing a spiritual house. The Temple in Jerusalem would have come to mind for many of his 1st century readers. What are some things you remember about the Temple in Jerusalem?
2. According to Jewish law, there was no chiseling of any stones on the Temple Mount when it was being built. They were all quarried, measured, chiseled, and fitted for their position in the Temple long before they were actually brought to the Temple Mount and placed into position. What insight does this give us about our place in the spiritual house of God? (cf. Ephesians 2:10 and Psalm 139:14)
3. According to verse 5, what is God doing right now?
4. In what ways have you experienced God's building project?

Discussion

5. Verse 6 gives us a picture of Christ Jesus as the cornerstone. Explain the importance of a cornerstone. How is Christ a cornerstone?
6. What would cause people to stumble on Christ the cornerstone instead of building their lives on him?
7. Share modern day examples of people who stumble on Christ.
8. How does verse 10 put this section into perspective? How does this passage move us to view those outside the church in light of what we once were?
9. How can our new status influence the way we carry out our daily activities?
10. How do you respond to Peter's view of you and other Christians in verse 9?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, make us more and more aware of our status as a chosen people, as royalty, as priests, as a holy nation, and as a people who belong to God personally. As a shepherd, you lead, guide, and meet all the needs of the sheep. Bless us to live under your caring hand of provision. Spring our emotions free from bondage as we see you as the guardian of our soul (1 Peter 1:25). Amen.