

Application

4. What are some practical ways that you can respond to people around you who stumble and fall (1 Peter 2:8) to help them accept Christ as the cornerstone instead of rejecting him?

5. 1 Peter 2:9 shows how God views us, even though to the world we are foreigners and aliens. How does this description of us, even in the time of suffering, enable us to declare God's praises?

MAY 13, 2018

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SURVIVING THE STORM

TOPICS: ACCEPTANCE, OBEDIENCE, CHOSEN, MERCY

Who Do You Want to Please

1 Peter 2:4-10

When you say "YES" to the world, make sure you're not saying "NO" to God.

Anonymous

You realize that as you come close to Christ, you are being built up (1 Peter 2:4-5)

Rejected by people but chosen by God; who do you want to please?

"Living stones" are ineffectual unless they are put together with other stones.

A royal priesthood doesn't exist for itself; it paves the way for others.

You realize that as you come, you are accepted (1 Peter 2:6-8)

The quality of your trust is based on the quality of the Stone.

The world may try to shame you but trust in God never puts one to shame.

You realize that as you come, you're being honored (1 Peter 2:9-10)

God makes you different

God gives you purpose

God makes you his own

Getting to Know You

1. Think of a time when you were chosen to do or be something special. Share how that made you feel with your group.

Into the Bible

2. As Peter thought about how to strengthen 1st century Christians in the face of persecution, his mind was drawn to one of David's psalms with the same theme: Psalm 118. In 1 Peter 2:7, he quotes verse 22 of the Psalm to describe how Christ was brought through suffering to triumph. Read through Psalm 118 and write down the ways David alternates suffering and triumph, then share them with your group.
3. How is a right response to suffering a spiritual sacrifice that is acceptable to God? (1 Peter 2:5)?