

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE

1 Peter 2:4-10

Main Thought: We can live for Christ in a hostile world by focusing on our priorities as God's people.

1. WE MUST KEEP OUR RELATIONSHIP TO GOD _____. (v 4)

1) By continually _____ to Christ.

2) By _____ our lives upon Him as the _____ stone.

2. WE MUST _____ WHO WE ARE AS GOD'S PEOPLE. (v 5-10)

1) We are _____ in the same _____.

2) We are _____ in the same _____.

3) We are _____ of the same holy _____.

3. WE MUST _____ GOD'S PRAISES TO OTHERS. (v 9)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. In prayer, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and reveal God's truth to you as you read 1 Peter 2:4-10.

2. In a couple of sentences, describe the focus of this passage? What's it about?

3. What do you learn about God in these verses?

4. What do you learn about humanity in these verses?

5. What verse(s) did you find to be the most meaningful? Why?

6. Was there a command in the verses that you need to obey? What was it? How will you respond to the command?

7. What verses were difficult for you to understand? Were you able to research the verse and find an answer to your question? If so, what answer did you find?

8. What is the Holy Spirit encouraging you to do as a result of studying this passage?

Digging Deeper:

9. Peter tells us that as God's people we are being built together into a royal priesthood (vv 5, 9) How many "priests" does our church have? What is the function of a "priest"?

10. What are the spiritual sacrifices that we are to offer (v 5)? (See also Rom. 12:1; 15:16; 1 Cor. 10:31; Phil. 4:18; Heb. 13:15-16)

11. What do you make of the fact that the same language God applies to His church in 1 Peter 2:9-10 is the same language He used for Israel in Exodus 19:5-6 and Deut. 7:6? Who is the true "Israel" (Rom. 2:28-29)?

12. What are some ways that you can declare God's praises in your home, neighborhood, workplace, and other spheres of influence (v 9)?