

BEING BUILT ON THE LIVING STONE

1 Peter 2:4-10

Key verses: 2:4-5

“As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him — you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ..”

1. Read verses 4-5. What does “As you come to him” imply? What does Jesus’ name “living Stone” tell us about him and his role in the “spiritual house” that God is building? Why do you think Peter describes Jesus as “rejected by humans but chosen by God”?
2. In what sense are those who come to Jesus “living stones,” and how does God use them? (5) What is God’s amazing plan for believers who are rejected by humans? (Eph 2:20-22) What does “a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices” mean?
3. How does Peter support his teaching about Jesus and believers? (6-8) Why does Peter describe Jesus as a cornerstone? What are the two responses to this stone, and the outcome of each response?
4. How does Peter affirm the believers’ new identity? (9) What is the significance of: “chosen people,” “royal priesthood,” “holy nation” and “God’s special possession”? (Ex 19:5-6; Dt 10:15; Rev 1:6) Why does Peter emphasize their identity in this way?
5. What is God’s purpose in calling all believers? (9b) Why is it important to remember who we were, and are now, regarding God’s grace of calling? (10) How can we overcome rejection, misunderstanding and trials as we serve God’s purpose in our mission field?