

Week 2 Series: Glorify God. Proclaim Christ. Make Disciples. Sermon Title: Corporate Worship Sermon Text: 1 Peter 2:4-10 Group Week of: January 7, 2023 Sermon Date: January 14, 2023 Scriptures for Additional Daily StudiesDay 1Christ's Priestmaking Work – Rev 5:6-10Day 2Let Us Worship Pt 1 – Heb 13:9-14Day 3Let Us Worship Pt 2 – Heb 10:19-25Day 4Let Us Worship Pt 3 – Psalm 95Day 5Personal Worship – Romans 12:1-2

<u>The Text:</u> 1 Peter 2:4-10

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ 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. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone,

and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸ and,

"A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were

destined for.

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Textual Questions

1) What is (are) the main lesson(s) that you see Peter (the Holy Spirit) teaching the church (us) through this text?

2) What do the new identities that Peter applies to the church have in common?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) How important is it for a Christian to be at church every week? What Scriptures have you used for or against the idea of going to church every week?
- 2) There is a big difference between "going to church" and "corporate worship." How would you explain the difference in your own words? What is the problem with simply "going to church" each week?
- 3) Each stone in a temple finds its place based on its relationship to the cornerstone. When the cornerstone is laid, every other stone's place will be aligned with that cornerstone. Take a moment to reflect on what the cornerstone(s) of your life is (are)? What thing(s) have put your life into alignment? What ideas, concepts, examples, or people are you striving to be like?
- 4) Christ the Cornerstone was chosen by God and precious to Him but rejected by men. How important is the approval and acceptance of man to you? How can building your life on the Cornerstone help to free you from this felt need?
- 5) If you had to answer the question "why did God save you?", what would your answer be? What do you think Peter's answer would be given the passage we are reading?
- 6) Many of the identities that Peter provides (temple, priest, sacrifice) culminate in verse 9 when he says, "that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." We were saved to worship God, and this must be done both corporately and individually. In light of this text, is it okay for us to "skip" church on Sunday? Secondly, is it okay to come to church and not engage in the worship of God?
- 7) What are some of the things that trouble you when you are trying to worship God on Sunday morning? How can you be spiritually prepared for those things before you come to church so that they do not inhibit your worship?
- 8) To be a chosen and holy priest who offers acceptable worship to God is an unbelievable honor. Spend some time meditating on the honor God has bestowed upon us. Commit to worshipping Him each week with the gathered body in prayer and write out any new commitments below.