



Groups

HOLY LIVING 3

I Peter 2:1-8

Life Group Study Guide

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For use by Sugar Grove Church of Christ Life Groups 2007

Connect:

- ◆ If your group has guests or new members take some time to make sure everyone knows each other.
- ◆ What has been a high and low point in everyone's life in the last week?
- ◆ What has been the tastiest thing you have eaten lately? Why did you like it so much?

Scripture:

¹So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. ²Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, ³now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

⁴You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

⁵And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. ⁶As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem,
chosen for great honor,
and anyone who trusts in him
will never be disgraced."

⁷Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has now become the cornerstone."

⁸And,

"He is the stone that makes people stumble,
the rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

I Peter 2:1-8 (NLT)

Grow:

- ◆ Read I Peter 2:1-8
- ◆ Why does verse 1 begin with 'So'?
- ◆ The imperatives that Peter writes in verses 1-3 are based upon what God has done for us. (see I Peter 1)
 - ☉ What is the problem with evil behavior? (verse 1)
 - ☉ What is deceit? Why should we 'be done' with it?
 - ☉ What is hypocrisy? Why should we 'be done' with it?
 - ☉ What is jealousy? Why should we 'be done' with it?

- What is unkind speech? Why should we 'be done' with it?
- ◆ In verse 2 Peter was not saying his readers were babies in Christ but instead the Greek word for spiritual indicates he was encouraging them to desire the Word of God as a newborn baby desires milk so that they could grow in their relationship with God.
 - How does an individual grow in their relationship with someone else?
 - How can we grow in our relationship with God?
 - How does spending time in the word of God help us grow in our relationship with God?
 - When do you spend time getting into the word of God?

Serve and Share:

- ◆ When you eat something that is good you want more of it. When you experience that God is good you will desire to grow in your relationship with him. (2 Peter 2:2b,3)
 - Is it possible to help our friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers who have not 'tasted' of God's goodness to do so? How?
 - Are you allowing God to build you into a 'living stone' (verse 5) that is a witness for how good God is? What needs to happen in your life to allow God to use you as a witness for him?
- ◆ I Peter 2:8 describes how some people have stumbled over the one person who could save them and give meaning to their lives.
 - Do you know someone who has 'stumbled' over Jesus in their lives? Why?
 - Prayer is a powerful thing. Put together a list of names of people God has put in the lives of the members of this Life Group and then pray by name for each person asking God to help them see Jesus.

Prayer:

- ◆ Spend a few moments gathering prayer requests from your group.
- ◆ Confidently go into the throne room of God with prayer. Be sure to pray by name for each member of your group asking God to bless your Life Group this year.

Preparation for Next Time:

- ◆ Read I Peter 2:8-12