

1 Peter 2:4-8

1. The Background

Isaiah 28:16 (v. 6)

Psalms 118:22 (v. 7)

Isaiah 8:14 (v. 8)

2. The Living Cornerstone (v. 4)

3. The Living Building (v. 5)

What gets put on the cornerstone?

What kind of building are we becoming?

What goes on in that building?

How does construction happen?

4. Coming to Jesus, Together

1. What insight, principle, or observation from the message did you find most helpful, most challenging, or most troubling? Please explain.

2. On Sunday we learned that Jesus is a rock: A rock that gives some refuge, and also a rock that causes some to stumble, fall & break.
 - a. What are some times that you've seen Jesus as a rock of salvation (or) as a rock of stumbling in the lives of others? What happened?
 - b. How does knowing that Jesus is a "stone of stumbling & a rock of offence" impact how you would handle the following (You may use personal examples if something similar has happened to you)?
 - A co-worker (or unbelieving friend) asks about your faith.
 - A "spiritual but not religious" family member says that Jesus is just one way, and wouldn't judge other ways.
 - A "Christian" friend is lukewarm assures you that "him & Jesus are good", while living as the world lives.

3. On Sunday we learned about drawing near to God in Christ as a way of life, and not only a one time decision. Psalm 63 sketches out David drawing near to God. Read the whole Psalm, and then go around the circle having each person answer the following (*NOTE: this is not about scoring points, nor is it conclusive. This is just one measuring rod to test how we are currently drawing near to God*):
 - a. Am I currently seeking God earnestly, or as a routine only (vv 1)?
 - b. When is the last time I have beheld God & His beauty in His Word in an impactful way (vv 2)?
 - c. Is my life marked by thankful worship? Does satisfaction in God's love lead to praising Him in tangible practical ways (in song, conversation, prayer, deed, etc) (vv3-4)?
 - d. Am I, anywhere in my life, pursuing joy/satisfaction in things that are not God (relaxation, items, money, etc), or seeking these things in Him only (vv 5)?
 - e. Am I intentional about meditating on & applying God's Word in my life? How does tis take shape (vv 6)?
 - f. Am I mindful of the ways God has loved/provided for me in the past (this may look like a prayer journal or something similar), and does this grow my trust in Him today (vv 7-8)?
 - g. As you draw near to God in faithfulness are you trusting Him to be the defender of your person, reputation, & future, or fearing man (vv 9-11)?

4. Read God's promise for His people in James 4:8-10, and pray.

Next Week's Passage: 1 Peter 2:9-10