



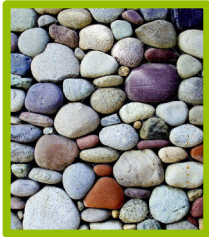
, 2019

# Connection Resource

## A Sojourner's Guide

1 Peter 2:4-8

**Connection Leader:** The passages of Scripture below are provided to expand on the concepts presented in the Pastor's message on Sunday. I encourage you to read them and familiarize yourself with the content prior to class.



This week, discover the value of an object lesson. Contact your group before class and ask them to bring a rock with them (one for each person). It doesn't matter what kind or what size. Diversity will enhance the discussion. As the group gathers, display the rocks in a central location to use during group discussion.

There are four topics to discover and discuss with your group this week. It will be difficult to cover all of them thoroughly, so I encourage you to focus on the areas that appeal or apply to your group in particular. Take a cursory look at some passages while going deeper into other's. Allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide in this matter and follow where He leads. Encourage your group to use the individual **Bible Study Resource** to continue pursuing God during the week.

### A Living Stone

1 Peter 2:4-8

As sojourners, Peter encourages us with a metaphor of a stone structure. Consider the rocks you have gathered and compare the characteristics of those stones to the characteristics of yourselves (ex. unique, hard, strong, able to weather the storm). Why do you think Peter uses this metaphor to describe us?

**John 5:24, Ephesians 2:4-10, Romans 6:4, John 3:3**

How does a stone become living? A stone, by itself is just a stone. But a stone picked up by the hand of the Mason has incredible potential. As the Master Mason, God has chosen each of you for salvation; and His gift redeems you from death into life. Take time to remember the moment you were made alive in Christ, and share that moment with the group. How is God transforming you from death into life?

## **Built On The Cornerstone**

**Matthew 7:21-27, 1 Corinthians 3:9-11**

As our Master Mason, God is building His Church on the foundation of Jesus Christ. He's building according to His perfect plan, and each new believer has a designated place. Discuss together how you see TBC building on the foundation of Jesus, then consider the following questions.

1. How are you building your life on the foundation of Jesus Christ?
2. In what ways are you obedient to His commands?
3. In what ways do you struggle to be obedient?
4. How is God shaping you for His purpose and His plan?
5. How are you fitting into His plan by serving at TBC and in your community?

## **Built Into A Spiritual House**

**Ephesians 2:17-22, Ephesians 4:11-16**

Consider those stones again, and imagine using all of them to build a single structure. What might that structure look like when complete? What will you add to the pile in order to begin building? How might those stones need to be shaped in order to fit together well?

A living stone in God's spiritual house is shaped, fitted, and placed by the Master Mason. It is strengthened from the foundation and becomes immovable. Each living stone provides support to the stones surrounding it, and becomes a foundation for stones that come after. Consider the following questions as you examine and discuss God's spiritual house.

1. In what ways are you immovable in your faith?
2. How are you building on those who came before you.
3. How are you serving as a foundation for those coming after you?

## **A Holy Priesthood, Offering Up Spiritual Sacrifices, Acceptable and Pleasing to God**

**Hebrews 13:15-16, Hebrews 4:14-16, Romans 12:1**

We are a holy priesthood with Jesus, Himself as our Great High Priest. He is our foundation and our example as we walk before God in holiness. As you pursue this point, consider discussing the following questions together.

1. What are you doing to continue growing in the area of personal holiness?
2. How, and what are you sacrificing in order to become holy?
3. What are you sacrificing in order to praise God in a manner worthy of Him?
4. How are you doing good to others?
5. How are you sharing with others, and what are you sacrificing in order to do so?