



BIBLE-BASED  
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TAMPA BAY

# MIDWK LOCKED-IN

Remaining Focused under Pressure  
A Study of 1 and 2 Peter.

**Week Three**  
*Built Together, Set Apart*  
**1 Peter 2:1-12**

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# Built Together, Set Apart

Pair up with someone near you and answer this question: What is one food that you love to eat that is healthy for you?

In a world of conflict, chaos, and constant change it becomes easy to see everything around you through a negative lens of cynicism and distrust. It explains the rising numbers of those in our society battling despair or despondency. Hopelessness is fueled by the news media frenzy on social media and everyday life circumstances. It is often said, “If it ain’t one thing, it’s everything.”

This well captures the sentiment of certain believers that Peter addresses in this letter who have been “grieved by various trials.” However, Peter offers another lens to shape the perspective of those tempted to resort to an old way of dealing with life’s trials.

In Chapter 1, Peter opens with the reminder that believers are elect exiles born again to a \_\_\_\_\_ hope. He ends the chapter explaining that this new birth happened by the imperishable seed, the \_\_\_\_\_ word of God which remains forever. This word becomes the source of spiritual nourishment for the believers growth and makes it possible for believers to become as \_\_\_\_\_ stones for a spiritual house.

This week our study looks at the purpose for which believers are built together and set apart. How might these spiritual truths reframe the world around us and what should be our response?

Peter uses vivid imagery to show that following Christ is both personal and communal and how personal conduct ultimately affects our communal witness before others in the world. The hope is that others will see our good deeds and glorify God in the day of his return.

## Study Objectives

1. Learn to examine your spiritual appetite for attitudes or behaviors that interfere with spiritual growth.
2. Embrace your identity as God’s chosen people to lives that witness to the world for God’s glory.
3. Identify practical ways your conduct can reflect Christ within the church and before the world.

# 1 Peter 2:1-12 ESV

## A Living Stone and a Holy People

**2** So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. <sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> you yourselves like \_\_\_\_\_ are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a \_\_\_\_\_, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in Scripture

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are \_\_\_\_\_ once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

# Table Talk

## Built Together

In verses 4-6, Peter describes believers as “living stones” being built into a spiritual house. Discuss the questions below using these verses:

1. Reflecting on the imagery of being built, in what phase of the construction project do you feel you are experiencing in this season?

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2. Priests offered animal sacrifices to God under the Old Covenant. What might be considered some of the spiritual sacrifices God is looking for today? How is that practically demonstrated? (Rom. 12:1)

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## Set Apart

In verses 7-12, Peter outlines what sets believers apart from those who stumble at the rock of offense. Use the verses to discuss the following questions:

1. What is the reason for stumbling or offense when it comes to Jesus as the cornerstone? Reference Romans 9:32-33.

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2. In what ways has your own self-image differed from your true identity in Christ? Explain the consequence.

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3. Peter describes fleshly passions that wage war against the soul. How would you describe the intensity of the war within?

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## In Summary

Peter reminds believers that following Christ is more than an individual decision—it gives us a new identity, a new community, and a new purpose. He emphasizes three components of one's identity in Christ:

**BUILT** — We are living stones, connected to Christ, the cornerstone, and being built together into God's spiritual house. We were never intended to grow in isolation.

**BELONG** — We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and God's special possession. Our identity is not determined by the culture around us but by the God who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

**BEACONS** — Because we belong to God, our lives should point others toward Him. The way we live among others should make the character and goodness of Christ visible.



# Looking Ahead

## Remaining Focused

As you move through the week, look for evidence of what Peter describes in 1 Peter 2:1–12—being built together, belonging, and becoming a beacon.

Consider this challenge:

Write out your strategy for abstaining from fleshly passions that war against your soul.

## Bible Memory Verse

**1 Peter 2:9(ESV)**

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of the darkness into his marvelous light.*

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Notes:

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If tonight was your first MDWK with us, thank you for being here. We don't take lightly that you chose to spend your Wednesday with us. We pray you felt welcomed, encouraged, and strengthened. We'd love to see you again soon, you're always welcome at The Base!