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LIVING STONES
1 PETER 2:4-12

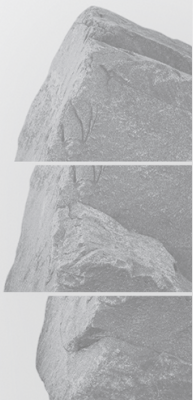
BUILT UP AND SENT OUT

God has always had a vision for the way His people move.

THE VISION

He builds us up together to send us out together.

Genesis 1:28	Genesis 11:1-9	Exodus 18	Exodus 19
Built up and sent out	*Built up to stay together*	*Build around a person*	*Build around a people*
MOVEMENT	MONUMENT		



I. We are _____ as a spiritual house of living stones.

II. We are _____ as a Holy Priesthood.

TODAY'S DEFINITION OF "PRIEST":
Followers of Jesus with an unrelenting responsibility for their people, places and platform.

GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO A _____. *Who are your people?*

GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO A _____. *What are your places?*

GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO A _____. *What are your platforms (places of influence)?*

HOME GROUP
Lesson + Devotional

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read 1 Peter 2:4-12. To what extent do you live as part of God's holy nation, and to what extent do you tend to live your Christian life on your own? Why?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 3:9-16 and Ephesians 2:19-22. Christians are "like living stones" being built into a "spiritual house" (1 Pet 2:5). What does this imply about your ...

relationship with God?

purpose in life?

relationships with other Christians?

relationships with unbelievers?

3. What do you learn about Jesus from the metaphors *living stone*, *cornerstone* and *capstone*?

4. What did you glean from the sermon about God's vision for His people to be *built up* and *sent out*? How has it helped your view of yourself as a priest?

5. What are the responsibilities of believer-priests today? See Hebrews 13:15-16; Titus 2:11-14; Ephesians 2:10; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 12:1-2 and 1 Peter 3:15.

6. Which of Peter's statements most motivates you? What important implication does that have for your life, and what practical steps should you take?

7. In the sermon the pastor asked you to identify your people, place and platform. How are you responding to this? What action will you take?

FOR FURTHER STUDY Using a Bible app or concordance, do a word study on *priest*. Find at least five Old Testament and five New Testament references. What light do these shed on your understanding of your identity in Christ?

HELPFUL
Quotes

In the Old Testament period, God's people *had* a priesthood, but today, God's people *are* a priesthood. Each individual believer has the privilege of coming into the presence of God (Heb 10:19-25). We do not come to God through any person on earth, but only through the one Mediator, Jesus Christ (1 Tim 2:1-8). Because He is alive in glory, interceding for us, we can minister as holy priests.

This means that our lives should be lived as though we were priests in a temple. It is indeed a privilege to serve as a priest. No man in Israel could serve at the altar or enter the tabernacle or temple holy places, except those born into the tribe of Levi and consecrated to God for service. Each priest and Levite had different ministries to perform, yet they were together under the high priest, serving to glorify God. As God's priests today, we must work together at the direction of our Great High Priest. Each ministry that we perform for His glory is a service to God.

It is important that we, as God's priests, maintain our separated position in this world. We must not be isolated, because the world needs our influence and witness, but we must not permit the world to infect us or change us. Separation is not isolation; it is contact without contamination. - *Warren Wiersbe*

YOUR NEXT STEP AT
Christ Chapel

Connect and Belong
New or returning, fill out a Connect Card and experience life together at Christ Chapel.

Together in Prayer
We want to pray with and for you this week as we go to God together.

Partner with Us by Giving
Be a part of what God is doing near and far by giving to local and global ministry partners.

Upcoming Events
Join in to grow your faith, make disciples, and reach those who do not know or walk with Jesus.

A WONDERFUL
Offer

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Admit that you're a sinner, separated from a holy and perfect God. ***(Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)***
2. Understand that the penalty for your sin is death – eternal separation from God and all that is good. ***(Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)***
3. Believe that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and conquered death by rising from the dead. ***(Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)***
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior from sin and death and your provider of true and eternal life. ***(Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)***

You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in him alone as the only way to be reconciled to you. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.

We'd love to know about your decision. Scan the QR code to learn more about following Jesus!

SERMON BLANKS: built up, sent out, people, place, platform