

Your Spiritual House
LifeGroup Lesson
1 Peter 2:4-12 ~ July 16, 2017

OPENING PRAYER:

O Almighty God, who is a most strong tower to all those who put their trust in you, to whom all things in heaven, in earth and under the earth do bow and obey, be now and evermore our defense, and make us know and feel that there is none other name under heaven given to all, in whom and through whom we may receive health and salvation, but only the name of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the LifeTalk this week?
- How do you respond when working on a house project or building something? How do your projects turn out?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:¹

1 Peter 2:4-12

- What would you expect to see in a person who imitated Jesus and become a 'living stone'?
- What are the different names for Christians in this passage. With which name do you identify? Why?
- What do you hear in v. 11? (Encouragement? Defeat? Anxiety? Etc.?) What struggle or war within yourself are you facing that only Christ can help you overcome?
- What does it mean for you to be part of a 'Spiritual House'?
- The aroma of the sacrifice was considered 'acceptable and pleasing to God'. What sacrifices can you offer to God that would be acceptable and pleasing?
- You are addressed as a priest in this scripture. What would it look like if you considered yourself a priest? How would you act differently?

Study other scriptures about stones/rocks. What does it teach you about how to live the faith? Matthew 7:24-27, 2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 42, Isaiah 26:4-8, Psalm 118:22-29, Romans 9:30-33

NEXT STEPS:

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or LifeTalk?
- Peter describes spiritual maturity. Make a list of spiritual goals and create a timeline of how you will grow in spiritual maturity.
- Spiritual maturity grows through our connection with other Christians (v. 5, 9). Take inventory of how you need to work on connection with other believers.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Lord, when was the last time we stood on tiptoes, stretching to see over the horizon, stretching to see tomorrow, stretching to see the cutting edge of life?

Many times we are complacent and view life from the easy chair. We are sometimes content to let life come to us, taking whatever comes.

Lord, shock us out of the easy chair.

Holy Spirit, get us up on our tiptoes again; put us on the frontiers of your revelation.

As seekers, help us to affirm our faith.

As witnesses, help us speak to others about Jesus Christ.

As disciples, help us to follow faithfully.

As servants, help us to serve.

As your children, let us share eternity.

God, we thank you for tiptoe experiences. Amen.

--Wesley Taylor, Tualatin, Oregon.