Grace Multiplied

New Purpose



Class Outline

October 1

Class Introduction

October 8

New Birth

(1 Peter 1:1-12)

October 15

New Life

(1 Peter 1:13-2:3)

October 22

New Purpose

(1 Peter 2:4-12)

October 29

New Freedom

(1 Peter 2:13-25)

November 5

New Relationships

(1 Peter 3:1-12)

November 12

New Confidence

(1 Peter 3:13-22)

November 19

New Urgency

(1 Peter 4:1-11)

November 26

New Reality

(1 Peter 4:12-19)

December 3

New Humility

(1 Peter 5:5-7)

December 10

New Destiny

(1 Peter 5: 1-4, 8-14)

Last Week

God caused us to be born again through Jesus so that we might live a Holy life that pleases Him by the Holy Spirit

New Life > Holiness

Holiness turns away from sin by the power of Grace

Holiness is a life marked by virtue instead of vice

Holiness loves the Word & and is obedient to God's Commands

Holiness is a desire to grow more like Christ and be with him

Holiness lives in the fear of the Lord

Holiness loves others like Christ loved us



1 Peter 2:4-5

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Theme

We are united with Christ and each other to bring Glory to God and making His presence known to people who are highly resistant to His message.

What is God's Strategy to Accomplish His Purpose?

God's Purposes are primary carried out through the Individuals working through the Church



Our personal Holiness is best cultivated and manifested within the church

We face two fundamental problems

We are separated from God

We are separated from each other

God Plan for salvation solves both

Cross

Our Separation From God

Church

We are separated from each other

God's Plan for Salvation

Our Individualistic society, many find purpose in Jesus but not the Church

The best soil for your growth as a Christian being apart of a His church

His purposes are primely carried out through His church

God's Purpose for His Church

Finding the Presence of God

Turning Spectators into Participants

Highlighting the Centerpiece of God's Plan

To be a Stumbling Block

Declaring His Praise

Impact the World

Reaching Resistant People

Finding the Presence of God

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:4-5)

Finding the Presence of God

- This picture of a house where God would be at home is drawn from the temple in the Old Testament
- The Jerusalem temple was still standing when Peter wrote this letter
- Jesus spoke of the he destruction of the temple and it happened in 70 AD.
- This destruction of the Temple must have raised profound question to Jewish believers.
 - They had always associated the presence of God with the temple so now where could the Presences be known.

Finding the Presence of God

- Peter Answers that question with this passage
 - God's presence is known wherever believers gather to worship Jesus.
 - Jesus has promised that he will be present whenever his people gather in his name.
 - People in Midlothian desperately need a place where they can find the presence of God

Turning
Spectators into
Participants

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Turning Spectators into Participants

- A holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:5)
- Peter uses another Old Testament picture to illustrate our role in the Church
- Priest in the Old Testament were the only ones who could enter in the inner courts of the temple. They were a very exclusive group of males from the tribe of Aaron.



Turning Spectators into Participants

- In our time, the assumption in our culture is that anybody can approach God any way and at anytime.
- The Old Testament teaches us exactly the opposite
- Worship in the Old Testament was largely a spectator event

Turning Spectators into Participants

- As shown when the curtain was torn, we now have direct access to God through Jesus Christ
 - We are God's Priests
 - God's Spirit lives in us and enables us to worship and serve Christ
 - Worship is now a hands-on experience for us
 - Becoming a part of God's worship is an important part of our spiritual growth
 - We are to offer spiritual sacrifices to God
 - Praise, gratitude, giving, singing, hospitality, acts of kindness and deeds of mercy can be offer to Him as Worship

The Center
Piece of God's
Plan

⁷ 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," 8 and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. (1 Peter 2:7-8)

The Center Piece of God's Plan

- Peter uses a building analogy
- To the outside World, Jesus is the stone the builder rejected
 - He came into the world, and they found no use in Him, rejected and nailed him to the cross
- Jesus is the Centerpiece of God's Plan
 - He is the cornerstone on which God's building rests
 - He is the capstone that crowns all his work

Declaring His Praise

⁹ 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 darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:9-10)



Declaring His Praise

- Once we were excluded from God's Worship
- By grace he has given us new life
- Our goal for the Church is Worship
- Missions exist because worship doesn't – John Piper

Impacting the World and Reaching Highly Resistant People

¹² 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.

Impacting the World and Reaching Highly Resistant People

- In the past, non- believers have evaluated Christianity the basis of if its truth claims are true and how it will impact on my personal life.
- Its goodness was not questioned
- In recent years, that has changed.
 - People now ask Is Christianity Good for me and out community?
- Peter has this in mind when as he talks about the church and us as believers.

Impacting the World and Reaching Highly Resistant People

- How do we win highly resistant people to Christ?
 - Witness and Worship
- Peter is not willing to give up on people highly resistant to the gospel
- Peter fast forwards to the Day Christ returns and says some of the most resistant people to Him will be glorifying God on that day.

Impacting the World and Reaching Highly Resistant People

- How is this going to happen?
- It starts with the testimony of our lives

 the testimony of our words
- Our objective is to live in such a way that resistant people see our lives and ask Why
- We can then tell them and Glorify God.

What does it look like to live a life like that?

1

Using our Freedom to act redemptively in situations of division and conflict 2

Praying effectively

3

Godly Relationships

4

Explaining the good new of Jesus with Words

Next Week

Topic: New Freedom

Passage to Study - 1 Peter 2:13-25

Passage to Memorize - 1 Peter 2:16

• 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.