



THE BIG PICTURE

Studies in 1 & 2 Peter

Feb 11, 2007

Growing in Spirit & Truth

Volume 5, Issue 15



Laying the Foundation

Intro to 1 Peter 1:1-2:10

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Any builder knows that a structure is only as good as its foundation. This will keep the walls from showing cracks, will allow the doors to shut well, and give an overall sense of stability. As our study this week shows us how to do the same thing in our lives. Building a life of significance starts with the good foundation that can only come from God. We are told first in 1 Peter 1 that God has blessed us with a privileged position as His people. Even though we are “aliens” on this earth we are chosen by Him to spread His message as we are planted strategically in this world. Because we are His children He has given Himself to us as an inheritance, along with the promise of complete salvation one day. Another element of God’s foundation is

His plan of action for us. We are to be ready for action, hopeful, obedient, and holy in all we do. It is our perspective that enables us to engage this plan, because we realize that we have been restored to usefulness before God by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, blood which was shed in these last times for the sake of Gentile believers. Due to His resurrection we can live in faith and hope in God. God’s plan for us also includes the power to put it into effect, which is the power of His Word. It is not merely a spoken word, but a living and abiding word that gives us spiritual birth and provides a dynamic framework for life. Finally, God’s foundation for our life of significance includes the revelation of His purpose for us as His people. He wants us to



Understanding the big picture of God’s work helps us serve Him no matter what...

long for the pure milk of His Word so that we can grow in our salvation, and He wants to build us up together into a spiritual house that He can inhabit. He also purposes that we be a holy nation of kings and priests, standing between God and man to show His excellence to the world. By understanding the position God has given us, and by putting into effect His plan and purpose for us we are laying the foundation for a life that makes a difference for eternity.

Daily Study Questions for 1 Peter 1:1-2:10

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.thehospitalchurch.com/small_groups/ABFs/leader_resources)

1. Read 1 Peter 1:1-2. How does Peter describe the believers here (v1). What does each member of the Trinity do for us (v2), and what does that mean to you?	
2. According to 1:3-5 what else has God done for us (v3, 4, 5)? When do we get to experience this (v3, 4-5)?	
3. From 1:6-9 what can Christians expect in this life (v6, 7), and how should we respond (v6, 8)? Why (v7, 9)?	

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I Peter 1:1-2:10 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. From 1:10-12 what were the prophets of old trying to discover (v10-11)? What did God reveal to them (v12)? What does this mean?

5. Based on 1:13-16 what is God's plan of action for us (v16)? Specifically, what does this look like (v14, 15), and what attitude is required (v13)?

6. Looking at 1:17-21 how are we to conduct ourselves (v17), and why (v17)? What has God done that should motivate us (v18-19, 20-21)?

7. In 1:22-25 what is our purpose (v22), and what is the source of power for fulfilling this (v23-25)? How does this work in your life?

8. Using 2:1-3 what must we eliminate from our lives (v1), and what must we pursue (v2)? What makes us want to do this (v3)?

9. According to 2:4-8 what is our purpose as believers (v5)? How does God view us (v4) and how does this relate to Jesus (v6-8)?

10. From 2:9-10 how are believers described (v9-10), and how does this define our purpose (v9)?

11. Summarize from 1 Peter 1:1-2:10 God's plan and purpose for you. From this passage identify one area in which you need to develop and ask God to show you how.

Scripture to Remember

"Like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation."

1 Peter 2:2 (NAS)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

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Life Group Questions—Let's Get Real about Spiritual Growth

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. How would you describe a spiritually mature believer? Discuss how do you think a person gets to be like that and how that has worked for you.
2. Read 1 Peter 1:22-25. What difference does it make that the seed (the Word of God) is said to be imperishable and living—how should that impact our lives?
3. Since the Word tries to find a place to abide, talk about what it takes on our part to allow this. How do you think your life would change if you did this?
4. Discuss what we must lay aside in our lives to grow spiritually (2:1). Why do you think this is true?
5. Read 2:2-3. Putting on Christ is like putting on your parents clothes when you are a kid. Describe the process of filling out our "spiritual" clothes and becoming like Christ.
6. Bring up anything else important to you from Sunday's message if there is time.