

# SUFFER WELL

A FIELD GUIDE FROM  
1ST & 2ND PETER

## WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE WEEK 4: CHOSEN

### SERIES OVERVIEW

Suffering is a natural consequence of surrender. As we surrender in greater ways to the Lordship of Jesus, we should expect persecution and difficulty especially as we find ourselves living in a negative world. 1st Peter encourages believers to persevere faithfully in light of their present hope and future salvation.

### 1 PETER VIDEO OVERVIEW

- [Watch HERE](#)

### CONTEXT

In 1 Peter 2:4-12, believers are described as living stones being built into a spiritual house, with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone. They are called to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God, and to proclaim the excellencies of Him who called them out of darkness into His marvelous light.

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:4-12

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. 6 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." 7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected

**Scripture continued**, 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. 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. 11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 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.

### THE BIG IDEA

Even though we are rejected by people, we have been chosen by God. Our purpose is to declare the Gospel to a world still trapped in darkness.

### ICEBREAKER

Pair up with someone other than your spouse or good friend. Think back to growing up and share the first situation that comes to mind when you think of not being chosen for something or being rejected by other people. It can be humorous or more serious. (Examples; not making the team in middle school, a group wouldn't let you hang out with them.)

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## WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

### STARTER QUESTION

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

### GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 Peter 2:4-12 as a group. As you read underline words that tell us “who we are” and what God tells us to do as Christ followers.

How do the secular humanist and Christian worldviews differ in their approach to finding identity?

Compare Jesus to the cornerstone used in buildings in the ancient world (vs 6). Discuss the significance of Jesus being the cornerstone of our faith.

List the 4 things in verse 9 that tells us who we are. Discuss each and share how each one impacts who we are and our identity.

Read and reflect on verse 10. How does understanding our past separation from God enhance our appreciation for His mercy?

How can our good deeds serve as a testimony to those who do not know Jesus, according to 1 Peter 2:12?

Reflect on the statement: "Your identity informs your activity." How has this been true in your own life? What happens when we reverse this statement? (Your activity informs your identity)

### Deeper Community:

**(Discuss in same gender groups)** Read verse 11-12. The Bible tells us to abstain from the passions of the flesh that war against the soul. What fleshly passions are you at war against and how can your group help you abstain?

### PRAYER

\*For a deeper and more responsive prayer time, separate into smaller (3-6 people) men's groups and women's groups or couples.

Share praises, answered prayers and prayer requests.

### Pray for your ONE by name!

Begin with prayer

Listen to their story

Eat with them

Serve them

Share your story and the story of Jesus

### Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for choosing us as Your people, building us up as living stones into a spiritual house that stands on the cornerstone of Christ. Help us to live out our identity in You, offering our lives as spiritual sacrifices and proclaiming Your excellencies with every step we take. In Jesus' name, Amen.