



What does it feel like to be all alone as a stranger?

1 Peter 2:4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men 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. 6 For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”

7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,”

8 and, “A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1. Strength to live as Strangers comes from the _____ beneath you!

a. Jesus is the Stone who _____ us.

- Matthew 16:16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
- John 14:6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

b. Jesus is the Stone who gives us _____.

- Ephesians 2:20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.
- Luke 10:27 He answered: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”
- Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,...

c. Jesus is the Stone who clarifies our _____.

- 1 Peter 1:3-4 In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you,...

2. Strength to live as Strangers comes from the _____ around you!

a. We have received the same _____.

- Romans 3:22-24 There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

b. We believe the same _____.

- Romans 10:16 But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” 17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

c. We are given the same _____.

- Matthew 28:19-20 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.
- Matthew 7:24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

3. Strength to live as Strangers comes from the _____ given to you!

a. Serve as _____ before God!

- 1 Peter 2:5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood

b. Offer your _____ to God!

- Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

c. Declare the _____ of God!

- 1 Peter 2:9 ... that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

LIVE AS STRANGERS! You are NOT alone!

- Ephesians 2:19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

What truth from today's message will you take with you this week?

NOTE: Ever struggle with your identity? Especially to embrace an identity in Christy? Connect to the daily devotions this week to discover FIVE truths about your identity!

CONSTRUCTION SITE

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



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