

## SERMON OUTLINE

### Hallmarks of a Healthy Church 1 Peter 1:22-2:12

#### I. The characteristics of a healthy church (vs. 1:22-2:3)

- A. Cleansed by obedience
- B. Compassionate love
- C. Converted through the Word
- D. Casting off sin
- E. Craving for nourishment

#### II. The construction of a healthy church (vs. 2:4-8)

- A. Living stones
- B. The Cornerstone
- C. The stumbling stone

#### III. The citizens of a healthy church (vs. 2:9-12)

- A. A chosen people
- B. A priestly people
- C. A holy people
- D. A possessed people

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

**In preparation for Sunday, May 27, 2018**

**Passage: 1 Peter 1:22-2:12**

Memory Passage: 1 Peter 2:9-10

### **DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

### **READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 1 Peter 1:22-2:12.** How do “obedience to the truth” and “purified souls” relate to one another (1:22)? Is Peter teaching that salvation is based on human efforts of obedience? Explain your answer.
- (b) What is the significance of the words “sincere,” “brotherly” and “earnestly” in Peter’s discussion of love in 1:22?
- (c) What does it mean to be born again of “imperishable seed” as opposed to “perishable seed” (1:23)?
- (d) What role does the word of God play in the new birth? What role did God’s word play in your own salvation experience?

### **DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

### **READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 1 Peter 1:22-2:12.** Verse 24 of chapter 1 begins with the word “for,” indicating a connection between what has just been said with what follows. How does this word connect verse 23 with verses 24 & 25?
- (b) There are five specific things that Peter tells us to “put away” in chapter 2, verse 1. Explain how each of these five sins is destructive in the life of the church body.
- (c) What is the “pure spiritual milk” that Peter speaks of in chapter 2, verse 2?

### **DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

### **READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read 1 Peter 1:22-2:12.** Twice in this passage believers are described as a “priesthood” (2:5 & 2:9). What does it mean for us to be “priests,” and what is the nature of the “spiritual sacrifices” that we offer?
- (b) Make a list of all the descriptive terms regarding “stones” in verses 4-8 of chapter 2. Then write a short definition of each of those terms as it relates to the stone(s).

(c) Peter's quotes regarding the cornerstone in verses 6 & 7 are taken from Isaiah 28:16 and Psalm 118:22-23. These same passages are cited in numerous places throughout the New Testament. **Read Matt. 21:42; Mark 12:10,11; Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11; Rom. 9:33; & Eph. 2:20** and write down what you learn about the "cornerstone" from these passages.

#### **DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

#### **READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read 1 Peter 1:22-2:12.** Explain the meaning of the words "as they were destined to do" in verse 8. Were these people destined to stumble because they disobey; or were they destined to disobey, and therefore they stumble?

(b) How does verse 9 present a contrast with verse 8? How does Peter's discussion of these two groups of people relate to what he has just said regarding the "stones" in verses 4-8?

(c) What does it mean to "proclaim the excellencies of him who called [us] out of darkness into his marvelous light?" What does this look like in our everyday lives?

#### **DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

#### **READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read 1 Peter 1:22-2:12.** What is to account for the change in those who "Once were not a people, but now are God's people," and how does this change relate to what Peter has just stated in verses 8 & 9?

(b) Why does Peter refer to his readers as "sojourners and exiles" in verse 11?

(c) How do the passions of the flesh wage war against our souls? How do we overcome such passions (v.11)?

(d) According to verse 12, what is the stated purpose of maintaining honorable conduct among the Gentiles? What should be our purpose and goal as believers today for striving to maintain honorable conduct within our workplaces and communities?

**DATE: May 27, 2018**

**PASSAGE: 1 Peter 1:22-2:12**

***Hallmarks of a Healthy Church***