

## **Living Stones, Chosen People – Cornerstone - 1 Peter 2:2-10**

### **Welcome:**

The focus in this lesson is our life in Christ. How Jesus is sometimes called our cornerstone. He is called our cornerstone because we build our faith around Jesus. That we are God's church. Not the building we go to for worship, but a living stone built with the foundation of Jesus. So that we can share His Word with others.

### **Story Time:**

Peter is telling God's people about Jesus. He lets us know that Jesus is the cornerstone to our lives. A Cornerstone is the first stone that is placed when you are building a structure, like a new building. It is the stone that holds things together. An important part of building. The cornerstone is what makes the building strong and stable.

In the reading, Peter describes us like newborn babies that need milk to grow. For babies to grow they drink a lot of milk and as they get bigger and older, they begin to need more food. And we are baptized into Christ's family, and we continue to read the bible and study God's word so that our faith in Jesus will keep growing. We need Jesus to grow in our faith. Just like a baby needs nutrition to grow we need Jesus to grow our faith.

And, Peter also says that we are the living stones built on Jesus. We are part of God's church. Living for him every day. He is not talking about our church building but you yourself, your body, and actions – what we do every day. Living stones because we live with Jesus in our hearts to share with others everywhere, we go.

With Jesus as our foundation, our cornerstone – the biggest stone, God is building us up into His strong family. We need to continue to fill our faith needs with listening to Jesus, reading the bible and sharing the good news with others. We can become stronger with Jesus as our cornerstone and when we all work together. By doing this we become strong in our faith and a living stone for God.

This reading reminds us all that we are precious children of God, and we are God's own people. He has chosen us to be His. Just as God chose Jesus to be our savior, to take away our sins and lead us to salvation.

### **Reading:**

Find your favorite Bible and turn to **1 Peter 2: 2-10** and begin reading.

As someone reads to you (or you read to yourself) try to listen to words you do not recognize. Write down important words and places you heard. You can draw what you hear or draw a picture when you are finished.

### **Scripture Reading:**

1 Peter 2:2-10 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

### *The Living Stone and a Chosen People*

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup> you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house<sup>[a]</sup> to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> 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.”<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”<sup>[d]</sup>

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> 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.

### **Questions to ponder:**

What is the most interesting word(s) from this passage for you?

What does Peter tell the people? (Jesus is the cornerstone in our lives and we are living stones)

Why is a cornerstone important? (it is strong and holds the building together)

When we have God’s love, what are we like? (a living stone)

How can you be a living stone for Christ?

How did the good news about Jesus spread from city to city? (the people shared the good news)

### **Review:**

Jesus is not really a stone. He is the solid and dependable part of our life and our faith we build upon him. That makes him the cornerstone of our lives.

We are all chosen by God to be part of his church. So that makes us a living stone to Him. We can always share with others wherever we go in our actions and words. This will help to make their faith grow too.

God is building a strong faith in each one of us. He is building us all into the strong family of through faith. Our lives are built on the solid cornerstone of Jesus Christ. With Jesus as our foundation, God builds us up into His family in Christ.

Peter believed that the world was coming to an end soon and wanted to make sure everyone knew of Jesus. And that God loved them and had chosen them as His own people. Just like a heavy stone that cannot be moved – Peter wanted the people to remember that Jesus is alive. We do not know what will happen in the future, but we can still live with the hope and love because Jesus is our foundation, our lives are built on Jesus.

**See the story:**

Create a tower with blocks, cards, books, rocks, or any other objects you may have at home. See what happens when you pull out the “cornerstone” you placed on your tower.

**Witness the Story:**

Find some rocks and clean them up a little. Decorate the rock by drawing a face on it using a permanent marker or paint. Then place them outside in your yard or share with a neighbor. Next time you see the rock it will remind you that you are a living stone for God

**Activity:**

Have everyone sit on the floor and then try to stand up without using your hand. Next, taking turns, sit on the floor again but this time have someone help you stand up. Is it easier or harder to stand up when someone help you? It is easier when we have help. We have help from Jesus every day.

**Extra Readings for today:**

Acts 7: 55-60

Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

John 14: 1-14

**Prayer:**

Dear Jesus,  
thank you for being our cornerstone.  
You make our faith strong.  
Help us to be your living stone  
to share your word everywhere we go.  
Amen.