

Women@TheBridge – Sundays at Seven (3/03/24)

We had a great time with Bethan Perry recently looking at 1 Peter 2 together:

- **reflecting on Jesus** the living Stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone,
- **remembering who we are**, living stones being built into a spiritual house to declare the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His wonderful light.

Whether you were able to make it or not, please take a little time to read the passage and look at the questions Bethan has written to help us to dig a bit deeper.

1 Peter 2:1-12

- Look at verses 4-12. Write down:
How Jesus is described. How the first readers are described. (Us too!)
- What do you notice about the two sets of descriptions?
(see appendix)

We have been given our identity by God

- Why is it such good news that our identity is given not earned?
- This is who we are, how are we to live? Take another look at verse 1 and verses 9-12.
Think of some examples of what this might look like in everyday life?

malice	→	goodwill
deceit	→	honesty
hypocrisy	→	genuineness
envy	→	generosity
(envious)	→	(be glad for)
slander	→	respect

Reflection

Write down:

- a point for praise
- a point for prayer
- a point to pursue (act on)

Appendix

1 Peter 2:4-8

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone - rejected by humans 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 cornerstone," ⁸ and

"A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

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

1 Peter 2:9-12

⁹ 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. 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.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

JESUS

- living Stone
- rejected by humans
- chosen by God
- precious to God
- precious cornerstone
- precious to those who believe
- for those who don't believe, this rock causes them to stumble and fall

US (our identity)

- living stones
- being built into a spiritual house
- (to be) a holy and royal priesthood
- to offer spiritual sacrifices through Jesus
- trusting in Him, we'll never be put to shame
- chosen, holy, special possession
- now people of God, knowing His mercy
- foreigners and exiles