

**STUDY QUESTIONS FOR EXILE AND THE KINGDOM: THE OUTCAST**

Read 1 Peter 2:1-10

God’s Story

1. St. Peter encourages the exiles to crave something in chapter 2, verse 2. What does he suggest and why might he be suggesting this?
2. In verse 2:4, how does St. Peter refer to Jesus? What is the analogy he uses? Why is that a powerful visual analogy for what Jesus’ purpose was and is?
3. Jesus is said to be rejected by humans in verse 2:4. How did humans reject Jesus? (Hint: Read Luke 22:54 and Luke 23. What disciple of Jesus apparently rejected Jesus? Why is that ironic for 1 Peter verse 2:4?)
4. Even though humans rejected Jesus, what did God do, according to verse 2:4-5? Why are the actions of God more important than human actions in relation to Jesus, then?
5. According to the scripture quoted in 1 Peter 2:6 (see Isaiah 28:16), who will not be put to shame? How did St. Peter slightly change the meaning of Isaiah’s words by applying them to Jesus?

My Story

1. Consider the ways you may be a newborn according to your faith. What things would it be good for you to crave in order to grow up in your faith and salvation? What are you willing to commit to today, to seek such pure spiritual milk?
2. Thinking creatively, what visual analogy would better communicate your personal understanding of the work of Christ Jesus on your behalf? St. Peter used the name Jesus gave him “Cephas” or Rock and the idea of the building of the Temple (Isaiah 28:16) to come up with the analogy of Jesus “the Living Stone”.
3. 1 Peter 2:4 is pretty harsh when it says that humans rejected Jesus. How is this true in your personal walk with Christ? Why is it more important that God chose Jesus and called him precious than that you do?
4. Do you consider yourself an outcast in any way? If so, how? How does the knowledge that Jesus was a rejected stone that became the cornerstone of a new world help you to come to peace with being or feeling outcast?
5. Think about things for which you feel or have felt shame . How does trusting Christ as the precious cornerstone of a new life help you to let go of shame?

