



PETER

THE DISCIPLE MAKER

Daily Devotions and Small Group Discussion Questions | Week Six

This Week's Memory Verse

..to keep in your pocket, memorize, and hide in your heart:

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you
out of darkness into his marvelous light.

- 1 Peter 2:9 (ESV)

Week Six, Day Three

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:9-17; Philippians 3:17-21; Hebrews 11:13-16

Devotional Reading

Have you ever met someone for the first time, and after a few minutes of conversation, you realize you have something in common so meaningful to both of you that you immediately feel like old friends? Maybe you're from the same hometown, maybe you went to the same school or maybe you cheer for the same teams. Conversation moves quickly from hesitant and awkward to light-hearted and reminiscent. You've identified with each other, and it's changed the entire dynamic of your interaction.

Conversely, have you ever been in an environment when those characteristics that define you have been suppressed or unwelcome? Perhaps you've felt out of place, like you didn't belong, like you couldn't relate.

We read in today's passages that as believers in Christ, we are called to live out both of these feelings in our spiritual lives.

The scriptures above assure us of a community and citizenship that is eternal, chosen and holy. And simultaneously, they remind us to live and act like foreigners, strangers and aliens as we await the day of Christ.

These verses show us how we are to integrate our citizenship in God's holy nation with our temporary status on earth. For example, in the passage in 1 Peter, we learn we are a, "people for his own possession." If we are his possession, then how should we relate to the guidelines of our earthly citizenship? "Be subject for the Lord's sake."

As citizens of heaven, we are encouraged to submit to, "every ordinance of man," right now and show honor to others as servants of God for his name's sake.

Faith In Action

If you have put your faith in Christ, consider the significance of your citizenship in his kingdom. What rights and promises come with such a citizenship? On the other hand, what perceived rights have you given up by becoming an, "alien," and, "sojourner," on earth?

Today's Prayer

God, thank you that you have promised us a home with you forever. I pray that you would reveal to me what it means to belong to you and with you. Show me how I still act like my primary citizenship is here on earth. Please give me strength and reliance on your Spirit to live honorably today as I long for my homeland with you.