



# 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 Four

### Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:11-17; Ephesians 4:25-32

### Devotional Reading

Oftentimes a religious spirit causes us, as Christians, to give into the belief that the things we do - going to church on Sundays, volunteering at the food bank and not watching rated-R movies - is how we earn our right-standing with God.

"While we were still sinners Christ died for us." Thus, it is Jesus' sacrifice that brings us into communion with God.

It is not how fervently I sing a worship song that determines what God thinks of me. It is what Jesus did for me on the cross that allows me to connect with and enjoy God.

Once we've grasped this truth, we may wonder, "Well, then, what is the point of trying to do good?" God's Word in 1 Peter tells us why our actions matter: "Live such good lives among the pagans that...they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us."

We don't live good and proper lives so that God will like us more, but so that others may glorify God when they see the way we act! Once we choose to follow Christ, we are given the invitation to let our lives direct others to the cross of Jesus Christ. This is an important assignment!

Ephesians 4 says, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up...that it may benefit those who listen." Let us regularly evaluate what we do and say by the following premise: Does this edify and inspire others to want to know Christ and his love?

### Faith In Action

Think through your actions and interactions from yesterday. Would others be inclined to glorify God because of what you did or said? Begin to be more intentional about what you do and say, considering whether or not those around you are benefiting from it. Ask God to reveal to you a couple of ways that you can bless another person this week!

### Today's Prayer

Jesus, thank you for your incredible sacrifice. Because of your blood, I do not have to earn God's favor or love. The grace I have received from God is overwhelming. I desire for my actions to cause others to draw close to you! Please make me mindful of how my deeds affect those around me. Fill me afresh this day with your love that I may extend to others.