

LESSON 3

PRECIOUS GEMS

1 PETER 2:4–12



1 Imagine discovering that you are related to a world-renowned genius. How would this affect your self-image?

2 What changes would you make in your life if you knew that you were related to someone unusually gifted?



Read 1 Peter 2:4–12 and the following notes:

☐ 2:4–8 ☐ 2:6–8 ☐ 2:9

3 What encouraging words did Peter have for Christians (2:9, 10)?

4 How are Christians related to Christ (2:5-9)?

5 What difference does it make in your life to know that you are related to Christ (2:11, 12)?

Though Peter's audience was scattered (1:1), the believers were unified in an important way: They were all part of God's building, God's family, God's holy priests, God's house. It is a very simple but significant fact that all Christians belong to God's holy nation. If you are a part of God's building, you too belong to this unique and special people. Don't think that you are useless just because you are only one person. And don't think that you are lost in a chaotic crowd. You belong to God. You are a member of royalty.



6 What makes each individual Christian important?

7 What makes the community of all Christians important?

8 What privileges does a member of God's family have that an unbeliever does not have?



9 Why might a person not feel important to God?

10 What would help a Christian appreciate his/her identity in Christ more?

11 What can you do to remember who you are in Christ?



12 Because of your identity, what do you want to remember the next time you feel discouraged?

13 What can you do to affirm or build up someone in your church?

A What are “spiritual sacrifices” (2:5)? What sacrifices can you make for Christ?

B What place does Christ occupy in God’s building (2:6–8)? In what way are Christians dependent on Christ? How can you show your dependence on Christ?

C Why do people stumble over Christ (2:8)? Whom do you know who has had difficulty believing the gospel? What can you do to help them believe?

D How are Christians “foreigners and aliens” in the world (2:11)? Ideally, how might a Christian’s priorities reflect this? What unique opportunities does being an alien give you? What unique responsibilities does it give you?

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