

READ: 1 Peter 2:4-5

Growing up in the church can be such a blessing because you benefit from being with the people of God, experiencing an enriched life and community. But there are some disadvantages as well.

- Sometimes you are so close to something you have a difficult time understand the big picture.
- In interviewing many students as they join the church, many if not most cannot clearly explain how they to have a relationship with Jesus or the Christian life though hearing it frequently.

This in many ways helps us understand what it means to have Jesus as your savior & Lord

1. As you Come to Jesus (This is How People Are Saved)

Socrates and the proud seeker of knowledge "When you want knowledge like you want air, then you will have knowledge."

- This story gives us a good picture of what it means to enter a relationship with Christ and how to live out the life of a Christ, which is what Peter is explaining to the Christians in this book.

No one starts off as a Christians. Everyone becomes a Christian by first coming to Jesus in faith & repentance... Faith that he is the Lord and only Savior (way) to God/Repentance of life of sin to new life of obedience and faith

- But beginning a marathon doesn't mean you ran a marathon. It is those who finish the race in faith and repentance who are truly saved
- This is not a reason to doubt your being saved, it merely describes how we live day to day.
 - The Greek word here for coming mean to continually be coming every day going to Jesus in faith that he is the Lord who you follow and your savior who forgives your sins.

2. Who is this Jesus?

This Jesus is the way to God

1. Jesus is the priest like in the OT who live in the temple where God is, having access to God.
2. Jesus is the sacrifice lamb given to cover sins so you can have a relationship with a holy God.
3. Jesus is the stone that shapes all of life, it is immovable, and unchanging. This living stone is rejected by unbelievers who refuse to trust it for life. But to God, it is CHOSEN and PRECIOUS.

3. What happens to people and their lives when they come to Jesus

Peter mentions four things about how Christians are to live this new life given to them by Jesus.

(First one last week, one each week for three weeks)

1. The first one we talked about last week... Puts off old self that harms people and daily craving spiritual nourishment to fight sin.
2. In this passage we find that when we come to Jesus, we become like Jesus...Living stones.
 - **You are being built up as a spiritual house**
 - Like OT priest live and serve in the temple, you are them temple, each a stone.
 - This is where God dwells, in you!
 - **You Living Stones are to be a holy priesthood**
 - Better than OT priest (only priest had access not people & only certain times)
 - But like Christ has access to God... everyone has equal and immediate access
 - **Living Stones of Jesus offer spiritual sacrifices to God**
 - OT priest offered sacrifices to God for the sins of the people
 - Jesus' once-for-all sacrifices made the OT sacrificial system obsolete. It can't save you only by faith in the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus himself are you saved.
 - So now, the entire life of a Christian is a spiritual sacrifice
 - as we give to God our worship, daily in personal worship and together as a church.
 - As we live an obedient lifestyle to God's Word given to better our lives.

DO YOU TRUST YOUR LIFE TO JESUS? Do you want him like air? Do you want him like air daily?