



A THEN + NOW PEOPLE

THE BOOK OF 1 PETER

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE
WEEK 2

CONNECT

- Describe one of the most beautiful buildings you've ever been in.
- Was there a time in your life that you felt you really "grew up" rapidly? In what way?
- What synonyms come to your mind for the word "holy"?

INTRODUCTION

At the end of Peter's opening to his letter, he tells his readers to set their hope fully on Jesus's coming return by "girding up the loins of their minds" (1 Peter 1:13). Now he's going to start describing how they do that. His first go-to is "be holy." Holiness might be a word with a lot of cob webs on it, but to be a then-and-now people, we must dust those off and understand what it

means. Not only will Peter tell us what holiness looks like in action, but he'll also describe how holiness makes us part of a building project God is up to.

READ & DISCUSS

READ

1 Peter 1:14–2:3

DISCUSS

Then-and-now people reject something and embrace something. They leave behind the passions of their former ignorance – the “I see, I want, I take” way of life – and instead they love one another from a pure heart. The only way to love one another like this is to “long for the pure spiritual milk.” Longing for pure spiritual milk is another way of saying, “I’m going to go to God with my desires and trust him to meet them.” When you go to God with your desires, how does it enable you to put away all the things Peter lists in 2:1?

READ & DISCUSS

READ

1 Peter 2:4–10

DISCUSS

The spiritual houses we read about in the Bible—like the tabernacle and the temple—are like a hot spot of God's presence. They're places where people encounter the glory of God in profound ways. Now God has made a new hot spot of his glory – the disciples of Jesus. Have you seen and experienced the glory of God through his people? How so?

CHRIST-CONNECT

READ

1 Peter 2:4

"As you come to him..." These words hold the key to holiness. Jesus is the very imprint of God's nature, the hottest hot spot of God's glory. It's in Jesus that we truly taste the goodness of God, and it's because of him that we desire to trust God with our needs and wants. After all, if this God gave his son to save us, he'll also give us everything we could ever need.

APPLICATION

- What else have you learned from this passage and how can you apply it to your life?
- Do you see anything in your life that you need to “put away”? How can taking your desires to Jesus to help you do that?
- How does the description of the spiritual house God is building affect the way you view your own life?

PRAYER

- Spend time thanking God for the gift of holiness.
- Spend time glorifying Jesus and abiding in him.

DISCIPLESHIP CHECK-IN

- Have you read your Bible and prayed consistently the past week?
- Who is one lost person you're praying would come to faith?



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