

GPS: Grow—Pray—Study - Sunday, June 15, 2014

“I AM GALILEE”

This Sunday we celebrate who we are as a congregation. The theme of our sermon is, “I Am Galilee.” We often like to say that church is more than a mere building, more than planks of wood and masonry blocks. But a compelling metaphor drawn from scripture does compare us to an edifice that God is constructing. Pastor Matt Sergent’s message centers on Jesus Christ, who is our cornerstone. We then see how are each of us serve as living stones who take our form and our function from the meaning of that firm foundation, Christ.

Our scripture today is 1 Peter 2:4-10:

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Sermon Notes

REFLECTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

MONDAY “For in Scripture it says: ‘See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.’” - 1 Peter 2:6

- Rather than thinking outside the box, try thinking outside the tomb. The biggest innovation in human history happened at Easter a long time ago and it can still change our lives.

TUESDAY “The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner stone.” - Psalm 118:22

- The people who crucified Jesus were convinced he was worthless. What do you say he is?

WEDNESDAY “As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” - 1 Peter 2:4-5

- Put your spiritual gifts to work. First, identify what they are (Galilee can help). Then find a way to offer them to God through helping others.

THURSDAY “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” - 1 Peter 2:8

- Ever notice how the name Jesus can set people on edge? After all this time, he is still a stumbling block for many. Our duty when we see someone stumble is to help them up.

FRIDAY “They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.” - 1 Peter 2:8

- Knowing that Jesus is the Messiah for everyone, share the Good News. Do it with grace and humility, and use words only if you must.

SATURDAY “Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, rebuke your disciples!’ ‘I tell you,’ he replied, ‘if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.’” - Luke 19:39-40

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Heavenly Father, form us into the church you desire. Give us the grace to be eager to serve and slow to judge. Fit us together in your great design that we may be a temple to your glory. Amen.