

D I F F E R E N T

1 Peter - Living a Life that's Different

Key Scripture

*... for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for **he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.***

... Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

1 Peter 2:9, 11-12 NLT

It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you.

1 Peter 2:15 NLT

*For God **called you to do good**, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps. He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. ...*

1 Peter 2:21-24 NLT

*Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has **called you to do**, and he will grant you his blessing.*

1 Peter 3:9 NLT

Session 3

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What did you want to be when you grew up?
- Who is someone you think of when you think of what it means to be a Christian?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Remember *who* comes before the *do*. Why do you think this is so important?
- Read 1 Peter 2:9-12. What message does my life, as it is, send to people around me?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- In what ways do you struggle to see yourself as God sees you?
- What are you already doing that not just tells, but shows people God's goodness?
- What can you do differently to lead more people to Jesus?
- Who do you need to practice the 1 Peter 3:9 principle with most?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, You've given us an incredible identity. We are chosen by You to be holy, part of Your royal family of priests. You called us to be good and to do good. So, we're asking You to give us the opportunities and the bravery to live out our callings this week. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- What's one thing you'll follow through with tomorrow in order to show God's love?