



I Peter 2:4-10 New Revised Standard Version

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸ and

"A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.



"A building is not something you finish. A building is something you start." –Stewart Brand (American Author)

Blocks, Lincoln Logs, Tinker Toys, and Legos: These (and others like them) are the building materials for many a childhood. Countless hours have been spent stacking, assembling, and connecting pieces of varying shapes, sizes, and colors until they form a castle, Ferris wheel, or perhaps dinosaur. Our childhood building projects are unique creations limited only by our imagination. If it works well the first time, so be it, but, if not, simply break it down, rethink, and try again.

According to the Apostle Peter, God is up to something. God has a building project of God's own and, in Peter's words, we are the "materials." He refers to us as "living stones" who are being put together by God. What is God building? The Church. It is not a building of brick and mortar, but rather a people who function together to worship, grow, and serve. As human beings, we have ideas and make plans, but ultimately God is the One who does the building. What do we want God to make with us?

- 1. The starting point for being built by God is surrender.**
- 2. Our living status comes in association with Jesus.**
- 3. God puts us together to become what we could not be otherwise.**

Prayer Pebble: Lord, I do not want to go to church. I want to be a part of your Church. Take my life and put me together with others in order that we might represent you, honor you, and draw people to you. Amen.