



For the Group:

As mentioned, throughout our Stay at Home quarantine, we have shortened our study, given the confinements and attention spans on Zoom calls. So these three questions are designed to be less inductive, and more practical. Let's get started.

This is Week 3 in our "What Now" series, and Pastor Bryan preached a message called "Living Stones" on the present and future of the church.

Q – Like the past few weeks, the passage for today's sermon comes from 1 Peter:

"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

This passage invites us to consider how God is at work in this really challenging season: what God is doing in Grace Chapel, what God is doing in his Church all over the world, and how God is forming his people for his purposes:

- What signs do you see that God is building our Grace Chapel community into a spiritual house and a holy priesthood during this pandemic?
- In what other ways have you seen God at work in this season?

Q – Toward the end of the sermon, Pastor Bryan named four ways the church is changing because of this pandemic: the church is becoming more prayerful, more adaptive, more outward, and more mobilized.

- What changes have you observed *in yourself* during this time?
- Have you grown more prayerful over these past seven weeks? More compassionate? More accepting? Or do you find yourself becoming more fearful? More needy? More easily annoyed?
- What shifts in your spirit would you like to sustain, and what changes would you like to set aside?

Q – Pastor Bryan talked about how Christ is at work in this season, shaping each one of us, and putting each one of us in just the right place in this new kind of spiritual house he's building. He shared the example of someone in his small group really leaning into a new experience of leading prayer.

- What new thing might Christ be shaping *you* to do as a member of this spiritual house? What new experience might you lean into?
- In what new way can you and your household *be* the church without *coming* to church?

The passage for 1 Peter continues in verse 10: "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." Let's close in prayer, praising God for his goodness and mercy, and asking him to send his Spirit to continue to shape us as his people. Let's pray ...