

## QUESTIONS FOR YOUR GROUP

1. How does the way we talk about church reveal a poor understanding of what it really means to be the church?
2. LOOK AT 1 PETER 2:4-5; 9-10
  - a. Who does Peter tell us that we are in these verses?
  - b. Which one of these images is most meaningful to you? Why?
3. LOOK AT 1 PETER 2:9, 12
  - a. According to these verses what are we called to do?
  - b. What happens when we declare God's praises without living good lives?
  - c. What happens when we live good lives without declaring God's praises?
4. LOOK AT 1 PETER 2:11. Why is it essential that we deal decisively with our own sin if we are going to fulfill our identity and calling in Christ?
5. LOOK AT 1 PETER 2:13-3:7
  - a. What are the environments in which we are to live out our identity and calling?
  - b. What are some of the inherent difficulties we may encounter in each of these environments?
  - c. How should our identity and calling shape the way we respond to the political landscape?
  - d. How should our identity and calling shape the way we respond to each other in our family life?
  - e. How should our identity and calling shape our attitude and performance in the work place?
  - f. How does Christ serve as our example for facing the injustices of a broken world?
6. READ 1 PETER 3:8-17
  - a. How do we most often respond to the indignities of this world?
  - b. How does Peter tell us we ought to respond?
  - c. How does responding to the indignities with dignity create opportunities for the gospel?
  - d. How should we respond to these opportunities?
7. What is your greatest take away from this study?
8. What are some steps you can take to allow what you have learned through this study to shape the way you live out the realities of your identity and calling in the ordinary events of everyday life?



360 DISCUSSION GUIDE 05.22.16

EVERYDAY MISSION | 1 PETER 2:4-3:16



“Where do you go to church?” When you stop to think about it, it’s a rather odd question.. We’ve all asked and answered it hundreds of times, yet it misses the heart of what it means to be the church.

You don’t go to church. If you have placed your faith in Christ, you are the church. So wherever you go, that is where the church is. It’s not a place. It’s not a Sunday event. It’s not a certain set of activities. It is an identity.

It is an identity that we share with everyone who has placed their faith in Christ, yet it finds its fullest expression in smaller faith communities where we experience the birth pangs of being formed by the gospel with scores of other broken people who have pledged to walk beside us and love us in spite of ourselves as we strive to live out the realities of our faith in a very broken world.

Church is who we are as the people of God. We are a redeemed community who gather for worship and to express the love of Christ to one another in authentic biblical community and then scatter to reflect God’s grace and goodness in the ordinary events of our everyday life.

We never stop being the church.

Peter draws on rich Old Testament imagery to remind us of who we are, what we are called to do, and how we do what we are called to do.