



Faith Bible Study Guide
For the Week of October 11, 2020

“Living Stones”

Group or Individual Study guide

OPENING TO GOD [2 Minutes]

Greet everyone, and begin with a minute of silence to allow the group to open themselves to the Holy Spirit.

HOOK: Engaging the Topic [15 Minutes]

**Feel free to “pass” if you would rather not answer a question.*

**Please be respectful of time and give everyone a chance to share.*

1. What makes you feel ALIVE? Share a story with the group about a time in your life you have felt the MOST alive!
2. What do “living stones” mean to you?

BOOK: Engaging the Word [20 Minutes]

Read Isaiah 28:16-17

Therefore, the Lord God says:

Look! I’m laying in Zion a stone,

a tested stone, a valuable cornerstone,

a sure foundation:

the one who trusts won’t tremble.

17 I will make justice the measuring line

and righteousness the plumb line.

But hail will sweep away the hiding place of lies,

and water will overflow the shelter.

Ephesians 2:19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

1. How are cornerstones understood to be used in the passages of Isaiah and Ephesians?
2. What is the importance of cornerstones?
3. What is the difference between a cornerstone and capstone? What does this difference distinguish when using it in context?

LOOK: What are we called to do? [15 Minutes]

Today we are going to ask you the same 3 questions that were asked of Bishop Grant Hagiya in the Sunday message:

1. What does a vision look like? Can you tell us a story of your own years of attending and being active participants in the life of the church (or THIS church), and your part in living into the present day Faith UMC church in Torrance?
2. As we move from our past, into the present, and looking toward our future, what roles and who shaped you into who you are today? (You can think in church terms, or in the world)
3. Returning to cornerstones, what is the importance of knowing what a cornerstone is in today's world? In the midst of pandemic, racial tensions, environmental climate change issues with fires and earthquakes and hurricanes, economic stresses in both the secular world and the church. How do you see the future of the church continuing the mission of the church and the mission of Christ in the midst and post pandemic?

TOOK": [10 Minutes]

CHRIST IS OUR CORNERSTONE, "In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit" - Ephesians 2:19-22

1. Think about what it means to accept Christ into your lives on a daily basis. What does that mean for others when they hear, "Christ is our cornerstone?" Could you explain it to someone if they asked?
2. Grab a stone in your backyard or one that you may find on a walk. Paint it. Ask Solange for help if you need it! ;)

Go In Peace [5 Minutes]

Invite someone to close in prayer, asking God to breathe life into the cornerstones of our hearts and upon each of us in such a time as this.