

Look at the Book

I Peter 2:5 - 9 (NIV)

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. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

*“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”*

⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

*“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”*

⁸ and,

*“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”*

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Probing

1. Jesus became a rejected cornerstone so that you could be chosen as a living stone. For one minute with your partner, make the longest list you can of how people rejected Jesus when he was on earth. Use the back of this paper for your list.
2. A sacrifice is a surrender, a giving up. The priests in the Old Testament made **physical** sacrifices to God. They killed sheep and burned them. But if you are a Christian, you are a priest who makes **spiritual** sacrifices. Talk for a couple minutes of how you can make a spiritual sacrifice to this God, who sacrificed for you.
3. How are you doing as a priest? (How often do you go directly to God? How much do you pray for others? How do you use your gifts in the church?)