5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on 1 Peter 2:4-10 | Living Stones: Connected to the Cornerstone

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Day 1: Coming to the Living Stone

Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-5

Devotional: Everything begins with coming to Jesus. Not a casual acknowledgment, but a full surrender -- a deliberate turning of your life over to the one who gave his life for you. The passage opens with the phrase "as you come to him," and those words carry the weight of the entire Christian life. Before mission, before community, before growth, there is this moment of coming. Have you truly come to Jesus? Not just intellectually agreed with facts about him, but surrendered your will, your plans, your identity to him? Today, examine the posture of your heart. Is it open or closed? Come to him again -- or perhaps for the first time.

Reflection Questions:

- When did you first come to Jesus, and what did that moment mean to you?
- Are there areas of your life you have not yet fully surrendered to him?
- What would it look like today to come to Jesus with complete openness?

Practical Application: Set aside ten minutes in a quiet place. Write down one area of your life you have been holding back from God. Pray over it specifically, releasing it to him by name.

Day 2: Chosen and Precious, Rejected and Scorned

Reading: Isaiah 53:1-5; 1 Peter 2:6-8

Devotional: Isaiah 53 paints a striking portrait of a servant who is despised and rejected, a man of suffering who was familiar with pain. This is Jesus. The one whom the Father called chosen and precious was the very same one that humanity dismissed, mocked, and crucified. He knows what rejection feels like from the inside. He was not picked first. He was not celebrated by the crowds who mattered. He was cast aside by the very people he came to rescue. And yet, that rejected stone became the cornerstone of everything. If you have ever felt overlooked,

dismissed, or told you do not measure up, know this: Jesus understands that experience completely, and he redeemed it.

Reflection Questions:

- Have you ever felt rejected or undervalued in a way that shaped how you see yourself?
- How does knowing that Jesus experienced rejection change the way you process your own pain?
- In what ways does the rejected stone becoming the cornerstone give you hope for your own story?

Practical Application: Write down one experience of rejection that still carries weight in your life. Bring it before God in prayer today, asking him to redeem that experience the way he redeemed his own rejection through resurrection.

Day 3: The Cornerstone Holds Everything Together

Reading: Psalm 118:22-24; Ephesians 2:19-22

Devotional: A cornerstone is not decorative. It is structural. In ancient construction, the cornerstone was the first stone laid, and every other stone was measured and aligned against it. If the cornerstone was off, everything built from it would be off as well. Jesus is that cornerstone. When we build our lives -- our decisions, our relationships, our ambitions, our identities -- on anything other than him, we are building on a foundation that will eventually shift. But when we stay connected to him, aligned to his character and his word, what we build has the capacity to last. The question is not whether you believe Jesus exists. The question is whether you are actually building your life on him.

Reflection Questions:

- What are the foundations you have been building your life on, and how stable are they?
- Where do you notice misalignment between how you live and what Jesus modeled?
- What would it look like practically to re-center your daily decisions around the cornerstone?

Practical Application: Choose one decision you are currently facing. Before moving forward, take it to Scripture and prayer, asking specifically: what does building on the cornerstone look like in this situation?

Day 4: You Are God's Special Possession

Reading: 1 Peter 2:9-10; Romans 8:15-17

Devotional: Peter does not ease into this language. He is direct and sweeping: chosen people, royal priesthood, holy nation, God's special possession. These are not titles earned through performance or awarded to the spiritually elite. They are declarations spoken over everyone who has put their trust and faith in Jesus. Once you were not a people. Now you are the people of God. Once you had not received mercy. Now you have. The transformation is total. This means that when you wake up tomorrow morning and look in the mirror, the truest thing that can be said about you is not your failures, your history, or your insecurities. The truest thing is that you belong to God and he calls you precious.

Reflection Questions:

- Do you actually live as though you are God's special possession, or does that feel distant and theoretical?
- What voices in your life have told you that you are not chosen, not valuable, not enough?
- How does your identity in Christ challenge or reframe those voices?

Practical Application: Take the list of identities from 1 Peter 2:9 -- chosen, royal, holy, God's special possession -- and write each one on a separate line. Beside each one, write one specific way that identity should change how you think or act this week.

Day 5: Living Stones on Mission

Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 28:18-20

Devotional: Isaiah stood in the throne room of God, overwhelmed by holiness, undone by his own unworthiness, and then transformed by grace. And when God asked who would go, Isaiah did not hesitate. "Here am I. Send me." That is the cry of a living stone -- not a passive, decorative piece of spiritual architecture, but an active, Spirit-empowered participant in the mission of God. The sermon made it plain: we are not dead stones. We gather dust for no one. We have been called out of darkness into light so that we would declare the praises of the one who called us. The mission field is not somewhere far away. It is your neighborhood, your workplace, your family table, your daily routine.

Reflection Questions:

- What gifts and talents has God placed in you that you have not yet fully offered to his mission?
- Who is one specific person in your life who needs to hear or see the love of Jesus this week?

- What is one thing keeping you on the sidelines, and what would it take to step into the game?

Practical Application: Pray the prayer of Isaiah this week, each morning before you begin your day: "Here am I, Lord. Send me." Then pay attention. Notice where God opens a door, a conversation, or an opportunity. Walk through it.

This reading plan is designed to be used individually or in a small group setting. Consider sharing your reflections with a trusted fellow believer as you work through each day.