

**1. Motivate**

When have you bought something based on a friend’s recommendation?

An introduction video is available. View at [https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/0\\_cturmk7v](https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/0_cturmk7v)

**2. Transition**

As believers, we also are called to “recommend” Jesus to others.

- Our hope in Christ points others to Him.
- We share that hope by our words and actions.

**3. Bible Study**

3.1 Never Put to Shame

Listen for metaphors, figures of speech.

1 Peter 2:4-6 (NIV) As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him-- 5 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."

Contrast how He was received by some people with how He was affirmed by God.

Received by some	Affirmed by God

How is Christ still being rejected by people today? Why?

Who are the lively or living stones?

What are some foundations people build their lives upon?

What will happen to those who trust in the "Cornerstone", those who build their lives on Him?

What are different kinds or shapes of stones used in constructing a beautiful building, a cathedral, for instance? (if possible show a picture of a cathedral or your own church building)

If we are “stones” which form the “building” of the church, what are different kinds of “stones” needed for God’s church – both the local congregation and the church universal?

### 3.2 Who We Are in Christ

Listen for who we are as believers.

1 Peter 2:7-10 (NIV) Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone, 8 and, "A stone that causes men 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, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 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.

What benefits comes to those who believe in Jesus? What images did Peter use to describe what those who believe in Christ have become?

Contrast the past and present condition of believers.

Past condition	Present condition

For what purpose were they called?

What changed about their lives?

In what ways will God change a believer’s life?

### 3.3 Lead Others to Glorify God

Listen for how believers are to live.

1 Peter 2:11-15 (NIV) Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. 13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men.

What terms describe who believers are in relationship to this world? (Check in different translations)

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## The Testimony of Our Hope

When you observe someone who is foreign, what gives them away ... how can you tell?

What does that suggest about the practical implications of believers living as strangers and exiles (aliens)?

In what manner are believers to live before unbelievers?

Why is that so often a challenge?

What is to be our response before our government even in harsh or sinful situations?

Recall Proverbs 21:1 *The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases.* Claim this promise.

What is the goal of godly living before others?

### Application

Be honorable.

- Start your day by asking the Lord to make you mindful of ways you can honor Him as you go through your day, no matter how simple or insignificant you may think the task is.
- Small steps of obedience lead to a long path of godliness.

Be submissive.

- Is there a person or agency of authority that you've not lovingly submitted yourself to as unto the Lord?
- Confess this to the Lord and seek to make it right with that person as soon as possible.

Be outspoken.

- Someone in your circle of influence needs to know of your hope in Christ.
- Think of a tangible good that you can do for someone who may be ignorant or critical toward the gospel.
- Show the love of Christ to them with no strings attached!

### Word Search Puzzle

ABSTAIN  
 ACCUSE  
 ALIENS  
 AUTHORITY  
 BELIEVE  
 BUILDERS  
 BUILT  
 CAPSTONE  
 CHOSEN  
 COMMEND  
 DARKNESS  
 DECLARE  
 DEEDS  
 DESIRES  
 DESTINED  
 DISOBEY  
 FALL  
 FOOLISH  
 GLORIFY  
 GOOD  
 GOVERNORS  
 HOLY  
 HOUSE  
 IGNORANT  
 KING  
 LIGHT



LIVING  
 MERCY  
 MESSAGE  
 NATION  
 PAGANS  
 PRAISES  
 PRECIOUS  
 PRIESTHOOD  
 PUNISH  
 RECEIVED  
 REJECTED  
 ROCK  
 ROYAL  
 SACRIFICES  
 SILENCE  
 SINFUL  
 STONE  
 STRANGERS  
 STUMBLE  
 SUBMIT  
 TALK  
 TRUST  
 WONDERFUL  
 WRONG  
 ZION



What pressure. I'm writing a book report for the Word Search Lady. You'll have to help me find the words. They go up, down, right, left and diagonal. Get help and more Ninja Family Activities at <https://tinyurl.com/y73nccjk>