

Digging Deeper

Key Passage: 1 Peter 2:10-12

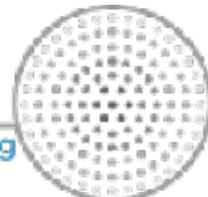
BIG IDEA: Mission is not meant to primarily take place through attractional programs, but through attractional people who live differently for the glory of God

Background:

So far in 1 Peter, we have looked at our relationship with God and our relationship to one another. In 1 Peter 2:10-12, we see a transition to a focus on our relationship with the world. These short verses serve as an introduction to what it looks like to suffer for doing good (something we'll look at in greater detail in the rest of the book). Peter's exhortation to these "foreigners and exiles" is to live such good lives that others might be won over by their behavior.

Discussion:

1. What was most challenging, insightful, or confusing to you from Sunday's message?
2. Take a minute and read 1 Peter 2:10-12 and Exodus 19:3-6. When God redeems a people, he always gives them responsibility. We are not saved *by* good works, but we are saved *for* good works. What similarities do you see between these two passages? How would you describe the responsibility of God's people in these passages?
3. In order to be a different kind of people for the sake of the world, Peter reminds us that we need to "abstain from sinful desires" which "wage war" against our souls (verse 11). Our battle is not primarily with the sin *around* us, but with the sin *inside* of us. Living out of our flesh or sinful desires is really an attempt to find life apart from God. Where are you most tempted to try find life apart from God? In other words, as you pay attention to your own sinful desires, where are you most tempted to find life, joy, peace, or satisfaction apart from the love and goodness of God?



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4. Take a minute and read 1 Peter 2:12 again. Notice where mission takes place - not so much in the gatherings, church services, or programs. Mission happens in neighborhoods, the workplace, in homes, at sport's practices, in coffee shops, etc. *Mission is a way of life and not just something we add on to our life.* Where is God calling you to be more mission-focused in your life?

Application:

Jonathon Dodson, who planted the church *Austin City Life* in Austin Texas, gives eight really practical ways to live good and ordinary lives on mission. These are simple and easy ways for us to love Jesus and love other people. Circle two or three that you plan to engage in with greater purpose and intentionality.

1. Eat with non-Christians
2. Walk, don't drive
3. Be a regular
4. Hobby with non-Christians
5. Talk to your co-workers
6. Volunteer
7. Participate in city events
8. Serve your neighbors

