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Cumberland Community Church

God has plans for you if you humbly serve him

1 Peter 2:1-10 New Living Translation (NLT)

1 So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. 2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, 3 now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

Living Stones for God's House

- **4** You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.
- **5** And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests.[a] Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.

1 Peter 2:1-10 New Living Translation (NLT)

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6 As the Scriptures say,
"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem, chosen for great honor, and anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced."
7 Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him,
"The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone."
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1 Peter 2:1-10 New Living Translation (NLT)

- **8** And, "He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall."
- They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.
- **9** But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests,[g] a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.
- **10** "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people.
- Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy."

God has plans for you if you humbly serve him

(1 Peter 2:1-10)

God never gives up on any of us

Mark 12:41-44 New Living Translation (NLT)

The Widow's Offering

41 Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. **42** Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins.

43 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. **44** For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on."

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Jesus used her <u>sacrifice</u> as an example to his followers

She is a witness to the <u>faithfulness</u> of God

James 2:14-20 New Living Translation (NLT)

Faith without Good Deeds Is Dead

14 What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? 15 Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, 16 and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

James 2:14-20 New Living Translation (NLT)

18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God.[a] Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. **20** How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

We must <u>reorient</u> our lives to what is good and true

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Requires more than words

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Evidence is in the actions taken

Mark 10 42-45 New Living Translation (NLT)

42 So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. **43** But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, **44** and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. **45** For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Sacrificing for God is spiritually beneficial to us

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Real Life.....Going

