



1 Peter 1 - Groups Discussion Questions

Based on sermon by David Platt, Lead Pastor (September 20, 2020)

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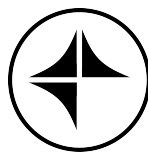
1 Peter 1:1-3 – “Our Team Name: Elect Exiles”

We must understand who we are before God in order to understand how to live in this world. As “Elect Exiles” in Christ, each of us is –

1. A Stranger in a Foreign Land;
2. Eternally Loved by God the Father;
3. Set Apart by God the Spirit; and
4. United with God the Son.

Discussion Questions - September 20, 2020

1. When you consider the question “*who are you?*”, what is your typical response? What descriptors do you often use to characterize yourself? What is the basis of your self-definition? In other words, where did these descriptors come from?
2. Are there ways in which you have allowed things (e.g., your job, net worth, possessions, physical appearance, ethnicity, nationality, political party, marital status, your past, your critics) other than God’s Word to define how you see yourself? Where differences exist between your self-definition and the Lord God’s description of you, what encourages you to relinquish your definition and, instead, accept and live in His?
3. When you think of the word “home”, what comes to mind? Where do you feel most at home? If you literally have lived or are living in a foreign land, what was/is the experience of living away from “home” like for you? How might those experiences inform how you might live this life in light of the reality of our true home?
4. Read 1 Peter 1:1-3. Those who are followers of Jesus Christ are “elect exiles” - strangers in a foreign land, whose citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20) and whose dwelling place is in God (1 John 4:15-16). How might these truths shift your perspective on your “home”, your life, and your circumstances?
5. As an “elect exile”, the follower of Jesus Christ has been chosen by God the Father to be on His team (1 Peter 1:1-2a). In eternity past, before the foundation of the world, God set his love on you and decided to pursue you that you might know him (Ephesians 1:3-6, Romans 8:29-30). What does this reality tell you about the heart of God toward you? How does this affect your perspective on yourself? How might it reshape your relationship with the world around you?
6. As “elect exiles”, followers of Jesus Christ have been set apart by God the Spirit (1 Peter 1:2b) to experience His life in us and become more like Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:18). Read Romans 8:11-14 and



Galatians 5:22-23. As a believer, in what ways has the indwelling Spirit of God made His presence within you known (to you and/or to others)? What encourages you to seek and yield to the Spirit's leading?

7. In the past year, how have you seen different members of your group growing to be more like Jesus? Consider spending some time encouraging one another by affirming this growth and praising God for His continuing transforming work in each other's life.
8. As an "elect exile", the follower of Jesus Christ has been united with God the Son (1 Peter 1:2c). Read John 17:20-26 and 1 John 4:13-16. As a believer, God the Father loves you just as (i.e., in the degree that) He loves Jesus. (John 17:23d). What encouragement does the Scriptural assurance that you are wholly united with God and fully loved by Him offer you?
9. What is your greatest hope for your relationship with the Lord God? In other words, what is your ultimate aim in your personal walk with Him?
10. In light of this week's message and discussion, what is one way you feel you need to live like an elect exile this coming week? How can your group members pray for you toward that end?