



As we look around at our culture, we can quickly agree that things are not as they should be. But how are Christ followers to respond in times like this? In the book of 1 Peter, we are encouraged to respond like exiles living among a foreign people, living as citizens of God's kingdom.

Read Romans 1 Peter 1:1

What do you think Peter means by the word "elect"? Can this refer to us today?

In what ways are we like the Jewish exiles during the Babylonian captivity?

Read 1 Peter 1:3-4

What sticks out to you about this passage?

What does this passage tell us about Jesus?

Why does it matter that we have a living hope and receive an inheritance? What does that mean about Christ followers?

Read 1 Peter 1:14-17

What does this passage tell us about being followers of Christ who are exiles in this world?

What does this passage tell you about the world we are living in?

What personal implications does this have for you? (If you are with a group, would you be willing to share those thoughts with the group?)

In this week's message, Pastor Ben encouraged us to think about this question:

“Do I live differently than the culture around me, or do I conform to it?”

Make it Personal

How would you answer the questions above? If you're with a group, would you be willing to share your thoughts with the group? What areas in your life look just like the culture around you? Where do you see the Holy Spirit changing you to live differently? In what ways have you already transformed?

Prayer

Father, thank you for calling us to be your followers. Though it means we are exiles in this world, may we be thankful, because we have found a way of living that is truly full of life. Thank you that we get to be part of your family. Thank you that we are citizens of your kingdom. Jesus, thank you for being a good and perfect King. Holy Spirit, lead us to be exiles in this world, living examples of your power at work in human lives. We pray that you use us to be a light to our dark and fractured culture. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.