

1 PETER STUDY GUIDE

WEEK 5: BEING THE CHURCH IN A “BE YOURSELF” WORLD

Primary Passage: 1 Peter 2:4-12

Related Passages: Luke 9:23-24, Mark 8:35

“Everyone kept telling me, Just be yourself. Be yourself. I kept thinking, there’s got to be more to it than that.”

- Tony Danza

LifeGroup Study Guide

Can you think of times in your life where you acted in certain ways or made life decisions because of pressure you felt to “be yourself”?

Read 1 Peter 2:9 + 11 and Mark 8:34-35. Instead of being true to themselves, Jesus calls His disciples to deny themselves and lay down their lives.

- What do you think people mean when they tell you to “be yourself”? What are healthy and unhealthy aspects of this thought process?
- What parts of “your self” lead you to pain and brokenness? Where have you seen your desires wage war against your own soul (as Peter describes in v. 11)?

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10. Peter lists seven different identities that Christians receive from God: a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, God’s people, recipients of mercy and sojourners/exiles.

- Which of these stand out the most to you as a more complete and beautiful identity than just “being yourself”? Why?

Read 1 Peter 2:11-12. Peter once again calls us to walk in our holy communal identity by both abstaining from certain sins (v. 11) and actively pursuing good deeds (v. 12).

- In the last few weeks, where have you seen success in this? Where do you need prayer and encouragement as you continue to repent from sinful deeds and fight to walk in good deeds?

Pray for Jesus to keep training us to die to ourselves and live for God and others.

Pray for Jesus to keep showing us that our identity in Him is much better than trying to “find our selves”.