

Life Group Discussion Guide

Seek First

January 9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Team Night | January 19, 7PM

A gathering at our Happy Valley Campus for all those who serve in ministry. We will worship, pray and step into 2022 together.

Pursuit Night | January 23, 6PM

Join us at our Happy Valley Campus as we seek God together and worship and pray for our families, church, community, and the world.

LEADER NOTES

This week we began a series called Seek First, in which we will kick off the New Year with 14 days of prayer and fasting as a church family. This may be the first experience of fasting for some in your group. Others may have difficulty praying on their own. As a group, make a commitment to encourage and support one another during this series. One easy way to do this is to follow the ALC Prayer and Fasting Guide available at alcpnw.com/seekfirst and check in with each other throughout the week.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

THIS WEEK'S TEXT

1 Peter 2:4-5 (ESV)

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 13:14-16 (NIV)

For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

¹⁵Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. ¹⁶And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

LOOK UP

Many of the texts from this week's message reference the Old Testament sacrificial system in contrast to the New Covenant established by Jesus. What differences do you see in the way the people of God worshipped in the Old Testament and the way we worship today?

How might these differences affect the way we view and approach God?

LOOK AROUND

What is your experience with prayer and fasting? As we embark on two weeks of prayer and fasting as a church family, which experiences might be new to you?

What is your greatest obstacle when it comes to a regular practice of prayer? How will you overcome that obstacle in order to more fully experience the presence of God during this series?

LOOK AHEAD and PRAY

As a group, discuss ways in which you can support and encourage one another as you pursue prayer and fasting in the coming weeks.

Pray together that God would reveal Himself more fully to you as you commit to seek Him during this series.