

Rediscover Church: What is the Church?

Text: 1 Peter 2:9-12

Context - Writing to the scattered and persecuted believers, Peter encourages them to stay faithful in suffering and reminds them of who they are in Christ.

Main Idea - The church is the body of people called by God's grace through faith in Christ to glorify him together by serving him in his world. (Mark Dever)

As the people of God....

1. _____ your status (vs. 9-10)

- A. In verse 9, Peter is using every title that was spoken of Israel in the book of Hosea, and he is applying it to the church. (See Hosea 1: 6, 9, 10; 2:23)
- B. If you are in Christ, you are now one of God's people. How should you now therefore live in this world?

2. _____ from sin (vs. 11)

- A. We are sojourners - traveling through a land that is not our real home. We are exiles - living in a place that is not our true citizenship.
- B. You must abstain from lusts that wage war against your soul.
- C. The sins of this world must not define us, but we must rather be defined by Jesus Christ.

3. _____ the Gospel (vs. 9b, 12)

- A. We have to proclaim the excellencies of the one who called us out of darkness and keep our conduct honorable, so that people will see our good deeds and glorify God.
- B. The only way people can glorify God on the "day of visitation" is if they are in Christ. We have to be about the work of leading people to Christ.