

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUMMARY

Pastor Andrew reminded us that Christians are called to live as "exiles on mission": God's chosen people, displaying His goodness in a skeptical and multicultural world. Drawing from 1 Peter and the story of God's people in Exodus, we heard that mission is a way of everyday life—not a distant program. As a "royal priesthood," we bring God to people and people to God, building bridges across differences, demonstrating God's goodness through integrity, hospitality, kindness, and Christlike living at home, work, and in public life. Mission is woven into our daily schedules, inviting us to participate in God's redemptive purposes where we already are.

SHARE

Share a recent interaction you've had with a neighbour or coworker from a different background or faith. What was surprising or encouraging about that experience?

READ

Let's read **1 Peter 2:9-3:7** aloud together.

DISCUSS

Feel free to pick/choose what is most helpful for you. Remember, the goal is to have rich, relational, authentic, Jesus-centered discussions.

1. What stood out to you the most about the sermon?

2. Look closely at 1 Peter 2:9-10. What does it mean to be a "chosen people, royal priesthood, holy nation, God's very own possession"? How does this identity shape our understanding of mission? Explore how Peter connects this with Old Testament covenant language from Exodus 19:4-6.

3. In 1 Peter 2:11-12, Peter urges believers to "abstain from sinful desires" and "live such good lives among the pagans that…they may see your good deeds and glorify God." How do these verses challenge or encourage you regarding your own daily life and witness?

4. Pastor Andrew quoted: “Mission is my schedule.” How does this idea reshape your view of the places and relationships you occupy during the week? What might shift for you if you saw your home, workplace, or neighbourhood as your mission field?

5. Using 1 Peter 2:13-17, consider the call to civic kindness and honouring authority. What practical steps can we take to demonstrate Christlike kindness in our local context (e.g., Markham, Stouffville, York Region)? Where do you find this challenging?

6. Reflect on the illustration Pastor Andrew shared about bridge-building with neighbours from many backgrounds. What barriers might keep us from hospitality and connection with people who are different? How can the gospel help us build genuine bridges?

7. In 1 Peter 3:1-7, Peter addresses relationships within the home. How does our conduct in close relationships reflect (or contradict) the goodness of God to those around us?

NEXT STEPS

- Identify one neighbour, coworker, or classmate you can intentionally engage with this week—through hospitality, service, or prayer.
- Consider using the “Joining God in the Neighbourhood” workbook or mapping tool at cornerstonechurch.ca/joiningGod as a group or individual next step

PRAY

Spend time praying together as a group:

- Invite each person to name a place or relationship where they sense God calling them to “show His goodness” this week.
- Pray for courage, creativity, and grace to build bridges, not barriers.
- Pray for Cornerstone to be known as “the soul of the city,” bringing hope, love, and belonging to every corner of the community.

CONNECT

Be attentive to announcements on **The Hub** for upcoming community service projects, workshops, or multicultural events where your group can serve or attend together.

CLOSING

Encourage each other to rest in your identity as God’s chosen people. Go in peace, carrying Christ’s goodness to your neighbourhoods and circles of influence this week.