

Sunday 10th May Living Stones



The Collins Online Dictionary - a resource that explains what words mean - says that stone is:
"A hard solid substance found in the ground and often used for building houses."

One of Jesus' disciples wrote about stones in a letter in the New Testament to help people understand about Jesus. Peter had been in and around Jerusalem throughout the time Jesus was tried, put to death and rose again. To understand Peter's letter there is another word we need. It can be found using the link below.

If you explore down the link page, the dictionary will speak to you!
<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/cornerstone>



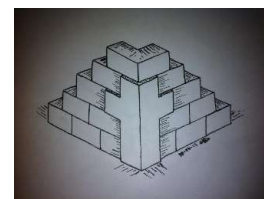
Using your two word clues see if you can understand what this part of Peter's letter is saying. A third clue is the last four lines of this section of the letter is a quote taken from the Old Testament from the book of Isaiah. Peter remembered from his knowledge of the Old Testament, a piece of scripture that refers to stones. A fourth clue is that Zion is a hill in Jerusalem.

1 Peter 2: v 4-6 (GNB)

Come to the Lord, the living stone, rejected by people as worthless but chosen by God as valuable. Come as living stones, and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple, where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ. For the scripture says.

"I chose a valuable stone,
which I am placing as the cornerstone in Zion,
and whoever believes in him will never be disappointed."

- ? I wonder who the cornerstone is?
- ? I wonder what the spiritual temple is?
- ? I wonder who the living stones are?



Peter was explaining that to build something you need the exact stone to build everything else around. The wrong cornerstone will not do. Peter was thinking that just like you need the right cornerstone for a building you need the right person to build a church around. Jesus was the cornerstone of the church but one person does not make a church. You need all sorts of different people who believe in the church's cornerstone to make a strong living church. Can you recognise Peter's letter in this poem?

God's Dry Stone Wall by Dave Hopwood

So many stones,
Small, large, smooth, jagged, new, old,
Fitting into this craggy, jigsaw body,
Different sizes, different shapes.
All vital, all part of a bigger picture,
Not a construction designed to keep
others out,
But a welcoming, generous temple.

A kind of place to call home,
A lighthouse, a divine landmark,
A place where all varieties of stone may fit
together.
Standing on the kind of rock that many
overlook
The kind of rock that will stand forever.

See: <https://davehopwood.com/2017/04/wednesday-riff-gods-dry-stone-wall/> accessed 7/5/2-

Prayer

Jesus, we are so thankful for all the people who help us
grow in our faith in you.

Thank you for being the cornerstone of our lives.

Amen





Cornerstone building challenge

- ❖ **Challenge to builders of all ages!**
- ❖ On the Seedlings sheet we learned how important a cornerstone is. **Can you make a building with a special cornerstone that really stands out?**
- ❖ It could be the size, shape or even some sparkle - as long as your cornerstone is valuable and dependable!
- ❖ You could build with anything, the more unusual the materials the better: blocks, boxes from the kitchen cupboards, books, playing cards, socks....
- ❖ Let's show how creative we can be! Send in a photo this week to be included in a montage next Sunday.

