

Becoming Who You Are, Where You Are
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1 Peter 2:21-25
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1 Peter 2:21-25
To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 4:3-4
For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable

idolatry. They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you.

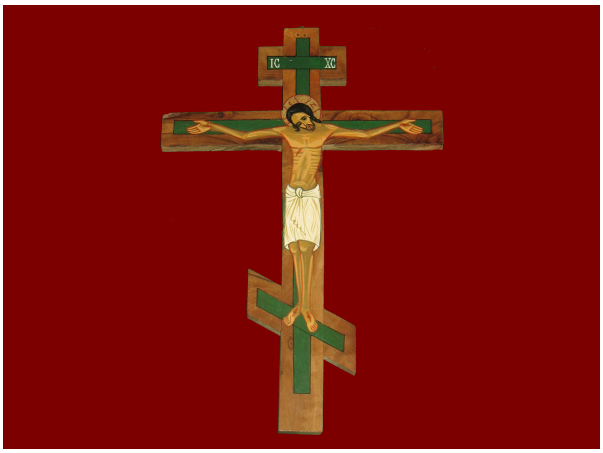
1 Peter 2:9
But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This burgeoning church was being taught by Peter how to live faithfully as Christians after leaving lives of religious and civic allegiances, while being persecuted for doing so, and while still remaining in the "stations" they had before becoming Christians. The way Peter does this is by showing them who they now are as "God's special possession" and how the pattern of Christ gives them a new model of existing in a world that can't be changed immediately.

1 Peter is about becoming who you are as a Christian while remaining in the same job, in the same marriage, in the same city, and with the same nationality. All while becoming a radically different person.

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Before your vocation is about what you do, it's about who you are.



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Become who you are, where you are.

Become filters, not conduits.

“Yes. At first I did fight back. I made some of them sorry that they had attacked me. But then I realized that by fighting back I wasn’t getting anywhere. The hatred coming at me in those fists and clubs was bouncing right off me back into the air, and it could just continue to spread like electricity. I decided not to fight back. I would let my body absorb that hatred so that some of it would die in my body and not bounce back into the world. I now see my job in the midst of evil is to make my body a grave for hate.”

- *The Good Fight: How Christians Suffer, Die, and Rise with Jesus*