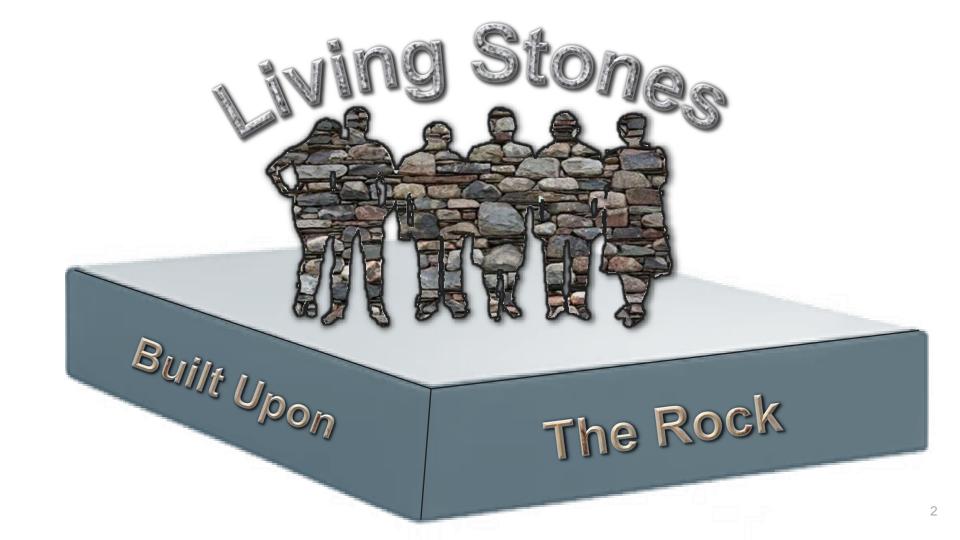


GRACE & PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD THE FATHER AND OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST





BUILT INTO A SPIRITUAL HOUSE

1 Peter 2:4-5: "To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

Living Stones BUILT INTO A SPIRITUAL HOUSE

Ephesians 2:19-22: "Now, therefore, ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief **corner stone**; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit."

Living Stones CORNERSTONE

1 Peter 2:6-7 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

Isaiah 28:16: "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste."

Psalm 118:22: "The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner."

Living Stones BUILT INTO A SPIRITUAL HOUSE

Psalm 127:1: Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

1 Corinthians 3:9: For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

CORNERSTONE

1 Peter 2:8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Living Stones SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT

1 Peter 2:1-3 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

Living Stones GOD'S WORD

Psalm 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

Jeremiah 15:16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

GOD'S WORD

Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Job 23:12 Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary *food*.

Proverbs 4:20-22 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

PRAYER

- 1) Prayer Strengthens Our Faith [Luke 18:1]
- 2) Prayer Brings Spiritual Insight and Wisdom
- [James 1:5; Psalm 119:18]
- 3) Prayer Builds Intimacy with God [Matthew 6:6]
- 4) Prayer Aligns Us with God's Will [1 John 5:14; Luke
- 22:42]
- 5) Prayer Invites the Holy Spirit's Work [Jude 1:20;

Romans 8:26-27]

Living Stones PRAYER

- 6. Prayer Brings Peace and Spiritual Stability [Philippians 4:6-7]
- 7. Prayer Deepens Our Dependence on God [John 15:7]
- 8. Prayer Produces Spiritual Fruit [Colossians 1:9-10]
- 9. Prayer Brings Boldness and Power in Witness .[Acts 4:31]
- 10. Prayer Fosters Gratitude and Humility [1 Thessalonians 5:17-18]



Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Living Stones FELLOWSHIP

Acts 2:42 "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Galatians 6:2 "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do."

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Living Stones FELLOWSHIP

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body... and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Colossians 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

FELLOWSHIP

Romans 1:11-12 "For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me."

Ephesians 4:15-16 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Self-Induced Necrosis

Jeremiah 5:25 Your iniquities have turned away these *things*, and your sins have withholden good *things* from you.

Psalm 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*:

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

Living Stones confession@repentance

Psalm 32:1-5 A Psalm of David, Maschil. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Living Stones confession@repentance

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Luke 5:32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whose confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Living Stones PRIORITIZE THE PRIZE

Luke 10:40-42 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Living Stones PRIORITIZE THE PRIZE

John 6:35: "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

John 15:4: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me."

Psalm 42:1-2: "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, **so** panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?"

Living Stones <u>ACCEPTABLE SELF-SACRIFICE</u>

"The Church is the Church only when it exists for others...not dominating, but helping and serving. It must tell men of every calling what it means to live for Christ, to exist for others."

(Letters and Papers from Prison) - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Romans 12:1-2: "I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

SERMON TITLE: LIVINGSTONES by Kenneth Hoeck TOTW.ORG



May the peace of Jesus Christ envelope you in all seasons.



SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS

