

Down To Earth – 1 Peter 2:1-12

Church is our home away from home. We're just passing through! Jesus wants us to keep our heart, focus, priorities, and treasures in Heaven.

Church is a Place for You to Mature (2:1-3, 5)

You were born again, and just like a newborn you need to mature. That means you learn to lay aside malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander.

We don't grow alone! We need each other! We need to feast on God's word together! It's not just what you eat, it's who you eat with!

Church is a Place to Make Sense of Rejection (2:4, 6-8)

You're being rejected, but don't worry, you're being honored by God.

William Baker, "Rejection is much easier to cope with when you remember the greatest person who ever lived was also rejected."

Church is a Place to Do More (2:5)

What I can do alone will never be close to what God can do through us all.

We're bringing people together, like living stones, to be stacked on the Cornerstone of Christ, so that we can build impactful ministries!

Jesus takes the thing that is furthest from life, a stone, and gives it life.

Church is a Place to Become Known (2:9)

One of our biggest unspoken fears is the fear of being invisible.

This church is a group of people that God called to come alongside you, to speak life over you, to speak your real name over you, to speak love to you, and to help you find your true destiny.

You're not invisible here if you're willing to get involved, get into groups, get onto a team; if you're willing to let us know your name.

Church is a Welcoming Place (2:10)

When you get on that elevator, and you become one of them, which one of them are you going to be? Are you going to say, "Come on in, we'll make room, bring your baggage, bring your kids!" or are you going to be one of those people who pretend that God's grace and mercy ended with you.