

for the **one**

Leader's Guide – Living Stones

1 Peter 2:5 | Pastor Dave Bennett | March 1, 2026

Session Overview

This session explores what it means to be “living stones” being built together into a spiritual house. Serving is not staffing — it is sacred participation in God’s presence. While God built the tabernacle through many tribes and willing hands, we too are built together to carry His presence into the lives of our “one.” Participants will reflect on willingness, unity, and how serving becomes a powerful witness.

Session Flow (60–75 minutes)

1. Welcome and Icebreaker (10 min)

Example Question:

“Have you ever been part of a team where everyone knew their role and worked together toward a common goal? What made it work?”

Purpose:

To help participants begin thinking about unity, shared mission, and individual contribution.

2. Scripture Reading (5 min)

Read 1 Peter 2:5 aloud.

Optional: Also reference Exodus 35:5 and 1 Corinthians 3:16 during discussion.

3. Discussion (40–50 min)

Use 6–8 of the following questions depending on time and group size.

Encourage personal reflection more than theological debate.

Leader Coaching Sidebar: Keeping Service Sacred

- Remind the group that serving flows from love, not guilt.
- Keep the tone invitational, not pressuring.
- Highlight participation over performance.
- Encourage people to see everyday acts as sacred.
- Redirect discussion toward spiritual purpose if it drifts to staffing.
- Emphasize willingness — not comparison.

Discussion Questions

1. Peter calls us “living stones.” What does that image communicate about identity and purpose?

Leader Note: Emphasize connection and placement—God builds with people together.

2. Why do you think a single stone cannot become a house on its own?

Leader Note: Draw out the necessity of community; isolation limits impact.

3. In Exodus 35:5, the word “everyone” is highlighted. What does that reveal about how God builds His work?

Leader Note: Stress inclusion—every contribution matters, even small ones.

4. The sermon said, “Serving is not staffing. Serving is sacred.” What is the difference?

Leader Note: Help the group shift from obligation to worship and calling.

5. What are some modern “tribes” in our church that reflect different gifts but one mission?

Leader Note: Encourage gratitude and unity; avoid comparing ministries.

6. Why does willingness matter more than ability in serving?

Leader Note: Focus on heart posture—God delights in willing hearts.

7. How might serving be one of the most powerful ways to reach your ‘one’?

Leader Note: Connect kindness and presence to spiritual openness.

8. What is something currently “in your hands” (time, talent, treasure, testimony) that God could use?

Leader Note: Move toward specific, realistic next steps this week.

4. Application and Prayer (10–15 min)

Invite each person to consider where they see themselves in the “building” right now — placed, positioned, and willing. Ask: “What is one step you can take this week to participate—serving your one personally or serving through the church?”

Closing Prayer Suggestion

Lord, thank You for calling us living stones. Build us together into a dwelling place for Your presence. Give us willing hearts to serve with joy. Help us carry Your presence into the lives of our one. Unite us in purpose and move us forward together. Amen.