

Summer At First Church - Week 3

1 Peter 2:11-12

Also: 1 Peter 1:1; Romans 2:4; Galatians 5:13-26

Discussion Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. In 1 Peter 1:1 Peter calls the recipients exiles and again in 1 Peter 2:11-12 he calls them both foreigners and exiles.
 - What is the significance of that for these recipients?
 - When you think of exiles and foreigners, what things characterize them?
 - What is the significance of those two words applied to you?
 - How do you do at living as an exile and foreigner?
 - How is the Spirit nudging you more toward that mindset?
3. The idea of social contagions was brought up during the sermon, things that infect us and make us less healthy, but we may not realize we're taking them in.
 - How do you see the cultural patterns of the world affecting Christians today?
 - Are there any cultural patterns within the North American church that isn't healthy? (For instance, the many instances of sexual abuse covered up in churches.)
 - What are practices that you have found helpful in living IN the world while not adopting toxic cultural patterns?
 - How do we as Christians leave room for differing convictions on non-essential matters when it relates to following Jesus in our culture?
4. Read Galatians 5:16-26.
 - Where/how have you seen someone living out the fruit of the Spirit make an impact on our culture?
 - What about seeing some sort of impact right around you?
 - Many times we think sharing truth with people is what will impact them most. Of course truth WILL impact people, but what if it's our character (the fruit of the Spirit) that will actually impact them more?

Thank you Lord that this broken world is not our permanent home. Oh, help us to live that out!