

READ

1 Peter 2:1-10

CONSIDER

I once heard my pastor friend share a meaningful lesson from his childhood: in his family, the siblings were taught never to turn against one another. Even when they disagreed or were upset, they had to stand together as one, showing support and love, especially when facing challenges outside the home. This rule served as a reminder that no matter what happens within, they belonged to the same family and had to present a united front. Similarly, Christians are called to be a loving, unified community.

In an age that often emphasizes individualism, we may be inclined to approach our faith in deeply personal ways. While personal devotion is essential, there is profound richness in understanding our identity as Christians through the Bible's collective lens. In 1 Peter 2:1-10, the apostle Peter encourages us not to see ourselves as isolated believers but as a holy people chosen by God to bear witness to His glory together. Peter draws heavily on Old Testament imagery, using language originally applied to Israel to now describe the Church—the people of God in Christ.

Our collective witness to Christ's gospel is significant. Just as a family that stands together, the church must reflect Christ's love and truth to a world that often challenges our faith. What does it mean for us to be rooted in this shared identity? How might this understanding transform the way we witness to the world? Come and join us for Sunday worship as we explore these vital questions together!

Pastor Amy Yu

PRAY

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of community and the bond we share as Your children. Help us to embrace each other with the unity and love You desire, just as a family that supports one another through challenges. In a world that often promotes individualism, remind us of the richness in our collective identity as believers. May we reflect Your light and support one another in faith, inviting others to experience Your grace.

In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

DIVING DEEPER

What personal habits or thoughts are you willing to change to help deepen the shared mission and fellowship within your church community?

What steps will you take to invite others into God's community to receive His mercy?

How can you create space for God and the church community in your life?