

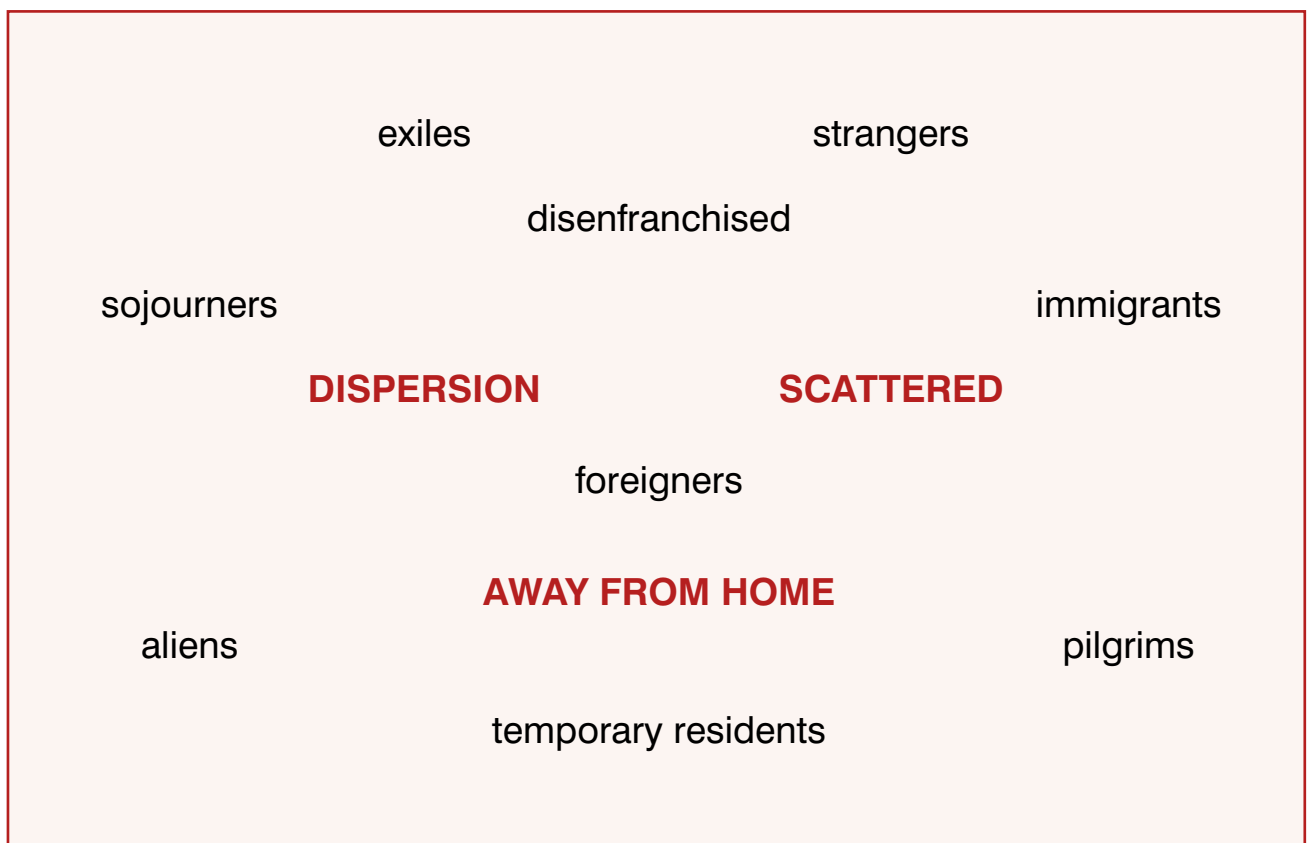
1-3

Texts to accompany the Ministry in the Methodist Church **Bible Study** on 1 Peter 2:1-11

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1.



2.

(Hosea 1.6, 9) She conceived and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, 'Name her Lo-ruhamah ('Not-shown-mercy'), for I will no longer show mercy to the house of Israel or forgive them ... she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said, 'Name him Lo-ammi ('Not-my-people'), for you are not my people and I am not your God'. (2.25) And I shall show mercy to Lo-ruhamah ('Not-shown-mercy'), and I will say to Lo-ammi ('Not-my-people') 'You are my people', and he shall say, 'You are (the Lord) my God'.

3. This lay out tries to show how the passage in 1 Peter 2:4-11 is constructed, but also some of the different ways of translating or understanding some key phrases (indicated by /, //, and italics or underlining).

Approach him

a living stone
 rejected by mortals
 before God chosen, honoured

And be yourselves/ *you yourselves are being*

as living stones
 built
 a spiritual// house/ household//*of the spirit*
 for a holy priesthood
 to offer up
 spiritual// *sacrifices*//*of the spirit*
 acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Hence it is held in scripture

Behold I set in Zion
 a corner-stone chosen, honoured
 and the one who puts their trust in it/ *him* will not be put to shame.

To you, then, the honour, – those who believe –,
 for those who do not believe

a stone which the builders rejected
 this has become the head of the corner
 and a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence;

they who stumble on the word, unbelieving,
 – for which they were indeed set.

You a chosen race

a royal priesthood
 a holy nation
 a people for a possession
 in order to proclaim the mighty acts
 of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Who once not a people, now a people, those who had no mercy, now shown mercy.

4.

As seen by the world	As called by God
Of no fixed abode	A house
Rejected	Elect
Dispersed	A nation
Disgrace	Called
Nobodies	Royal
(v. 10) Darkness	Light
Not a people	A people

5.	Christ	Christians
	Stone	Stones
	Suffered and made alive	Living
	Cornerstone	Being built (House/ temple)
	Rejected	Rejected
	Chosen	Chosen
	Precious/honoured	Honour for you who believe (1:9 precious)

6.	Scripture (1 Peter 2:6-8)	Christ/Christians
	<p>(<i>Isaiah 28:16</i>) Behold I set in Zion a stone as a corner stone, chosen, precious, and the one who believes in it will not be shamed +</p> <p>(<i>Psalms 118:22</i>) the stone which the builders rejected has been made the head of the corner +</p> <p>(<i>Isaiah 8:14</i>) a stone causing stumbling ... and a rock causing offence</p>	<p>Stone/ stones (v. 4/ v. 5)</p> <p>Rejected (v. 4/ cf. 2:20; 4:4)</p> <p>Chosen (v. 4/ v. 9; cf. 1:1 [= 'elect'])</p> <p>Precious (v. 4/ v.7)</p> <p><i>Not shamed</i></p> <p><i>Head of the corner</i></p>

7. (*Exodus 19.4-6*) You saw all I did to the Egyptians and how I lifted you up as on the wings of eagles, and brought you to myself, and now if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant you shall be a people for me to possess from all the nations. For all the earth is mine. You shall be for me a kingly priesthood (a priestly kingdom// a realm, a priesthood), and a holy nation

(*Isaiah 43.19-21*) I am doing new things ... I shall make a way in the wilderness ... the wild beasts shall praise me ... because I gave water in the wilderness and a river in the dry land so that my chosen race might drink, my people of whom I took possession for myself in order to recount my mighty acts

8.	God's people in Scripture	Called to be God's people today
	<p>(<i>Exodus 19.4-6</i>) You saw all I did ... and now if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant you shall be a people for me to possess among all the nations. For all the earth is mine. You shall be for me a kingly priesthood (a realm, a priesthood), and a holy nation + ... (<i>Isaiah 43:20-21</i>) because I gave water in the wilderness and a river in the dry land so that my chosen race might drink, my people whom I took possession of in order to recount my mighty acts</p>	<p>(1 Peter 2:5, 9)</p> <p>A holy priesthood</p> <p>A chosen race</p> <p>A royal priesthood</p> <p>A holy nation</p> <p>A people for my possession</p>

9. Deed of Union 4: The Methodist Church holds the doctrine of the **priesthood of all believers** and consequently believes that no priesthood exists which belongs exclusively to a particular order or class of persons but in the exercise of its corporate life and worship special qualifications for the discharge of special duties are required and thus the principle of representative selection is recognised.

10. God's people in Scripture	Called to be God's people today
<p>...you shall be a people for me to possess <u>among all the nations. For all the earth is mine.</u> You shall be for me a kingly priesthood and a holy nation ... my chosen race ... my people of whom I took possession <u>in order to recount my mighty acts</u></p>	<p>a spiritual house, a holy priesthood <u>to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ ...</u></p> <p>You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for my possession</p> <p><u>in order to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called you from darkness to his wonderful light</u></p>