



**EVERYDAY CHURCH**  
**(3) Everyday mission**  
**1 Peter 2.**

**Opening up! Connecting with each other.**

Think back to when you were a child and share with each other who was an attractive role model for you. Who did you especially admire? You might like also to share whether last week’s study has had an effect on your thinking or living during the past week.

**Listening in!**

**Read 1 Peter 2.** What does it mean to be church? In 1 Peter 2. 9-10 we are given a blueprint – Peter is drawing on the Old Testament and finding there God’s plan and purpose for his people being fulfilled by the church.

<i>1 Peter 2.9-10</i>	<i>Main Old Testament allusions</i>
You are a chosen people	My chosen people (Isaiah 43.20)
A royal priesthood	A kingdom of priests (Exodus 19.6)
A holy nation	A holy nation (Exodus 19.6)
A people belonging to God	My treasured possession (Ex 19.5) my people (Isaiah 43.20)
That you may declare the praises of him who called you ...	That they might declare my praise (Isaiah 43.21)
Once you were not a people, now you are the people of God	I will say to Not my People ‘you are my people’ (Hosea 2.23)
Once you had not received mercy, now you’ve received mercy	I will have mercy on No Mercy (Hosea 2.23)

**Discuss**

- Having read Peter’s blueprint, consider how it makes you feel? Maybe you feel excited, honoured, joyful, fearful, overwhelmed with a sense of responsibility?

In both the Old and New Testament we see God is carving out one place on earth where his goodness and the freedom of his people can be seen. God’s people are called to attract the world to God by the quality of our lives (1 Peter 2.11-12). Peter also seems to have in mind Jesus’ words when he was talking to his newly formed community of disciples when he spoke of them being salt and light (Matthew 5.13-15). This includes being ready to explain our hope (Matt. 3.15).

Peter goes on to apply this mission strategy to our life in society (2.13-17); the workplace (2.18-25); and home (3.1-7). We can find mission opportunities in all our activities:

- daily – travelling to work, work, eating meals, walking the dog, playing with children ...
- weekly – shopping, leisure, eating & drinking out, exercising ...
- monthly – gardening, getting a haircut, entertainment ...

**Looking out!**

1. Spend some time reflecting upon what your mission opportunities are- daily, weekly and monthly and then share with the group. What are the places where you can be salt and light and have the opportunity to live out and share the hope that is in you?
2. Someone suggested the following: eat with those who aren’t Christians; when you can, don’t drive, walk; be a regular at garages, shops etc and build relationships; participate in city events; love the city; serve neighbours. In summary, love Jesus, love people, love life, then you’ll be one of those declaring the ‘praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light’. Do you need to be more intentional about being missional as God has called you in any area?

**Looking up!**

Turn your discussion into prayer and praise. Pray that we become more and more like Peter’s blueprint of church, attracting others to God by our life and our words. Perhaps you might like to pray into each of the statements within the blueprint, owning each statement and building a confidence and realisation that God has chosen you to fulfil His mission strategy.