Space for God The Cornerstone



PREPARATION

• In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit •
The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful to see.
This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:22-24

WORSHIP

You are citizens along with all of God's holy people.
You are members of God's family.
Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Ephesians 2:19b-21

CONFESSION

He plowed the land, cleared its stones, and planted it with the best vines.
In the middle he built a watchtower and carved a winepress in the nearby rocks.
Then he waited for a harvest of sweet grapes,
but the grapes that grew were bitter. Isaiah 5:2

MEDITATION – Matthew 21:33-44*

"Now listen to another story. A certain landowner planted a vineyard, built a wall around it, dug a pit for pressing out the grape juice, and built a lookout tower. Then he leased the vineyard to tenant farmers and moved to another country. At the time of the grape harvest, he sent his servants to collect his share of the crop. But the farmers grabbed his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. So the landowner sent a larger group of his servants to collect for him, but the results were the same.
"Finally, the owner sent his son, thinking, 'Surely they will respect my son.'
"But when the tenant farmers saw his son coming, they said to one another, 'Here comes the heir to this estate. Come on, let's kill him and get the estate for ourselves!' So they grabbed him, dragged him out of the vineyard, and murdered him.
"When the owner of the vineyard returns," Jesus asked, "what do you think he will do to those farmers?"
The religious leaders replied, "He will put the wicked men to a horrible death and lease the vineyard to others who will give him his share of the crop after each harvest."
Then Jesus asked them, "Didn't you ever read this in the Scriptures? 'The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful to see.'
I tell you, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation that will produce the proper fruit. Anyone who stumbles over that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone it falls on."

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY	
Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God's healing and renewal.

ANCHORING PRAYER

I welcome Your Son, the Cornerstone of my life.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

When have I welcomed God's Word?

When have I rejected God's Word?

WISDOM

You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor. And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. 1 Peter 2:4-5a

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:11

Therefore, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: "Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken. Isaiah 28:16

TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.*

BENEDICTION

"The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful to see."
• Amen •
Matthew 21:42b

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY
Be still and quiet before God.
Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.
Speak, act, and serve from a listening heart.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. **Bold** portions to be read in unison. *Lectionary, Year A
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