

THE BIG IDEA: When Christ is our corner stone, we are marked by Him.

The Take-Off

Have you ever thought about the foundation of your life? What are you building yourself on and how are you lining up with God's word? In **Luke 6:46-49**, we see that there is a firm foundation when we come to Christ and do what He has called us to do. So why would we focus so much on Christ being our foundation? Today let me tell you about something I learned. **Psalm 118:22** says "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner stone." This is a prophecy we see about Jesus which is going to play a large role in what we look at today. So let's read **Acts 4:1-12**

So what is the big deal with this corner stone? As I studied the corner stone this week, I learned of some crazy cool facts. The corner stone would be:

- The most perfect stone in the group
- Was a symbol of the builder, the one having the building built
- The size was subjective. If a king were building the corner stone would be the best stone that was the length of the king's tip of his finger to his elbow.
- The starting point for the foundation
- If something was off in the rest of the building, they would turn back to the corner stone as guidance.

When we look at what Peter and John were going through, we see men who standing up for their faith because of the corner stone in their life, which was JESUS! You see, in the beginning of Acts 3 Peter and John healed a lame beggar who was over 40 years old and we see that they were preaching the power in the name of Jesus. In the beginning of Acts 4 we see they are preaching of the resurrection through JESUS. The religious leaders thought they had squashed out this JESUS non-sense when they killed him, but because of the resurrection power they were still dealing with it. Now these men who we know are Jesus' disciples, are performing power miracles in His name and people are being healed. So they try to squash these men and keep them from sharing about Jesus. And this is where we see the Big Idea for today, When Christ is our corner stone, we are marked by Him. We want to look at what happens when our foundation is built on Christ.

1. We are marked by His Spirit.
 - a. Peter is one of the most relatable disciples
 - i. He often did things that weren't correct and very rarely got things right.
 - ii. The only time the Peter got it right, Jesus said that flesh and blood did not reveal this to him but God revealed it to him. (**Matthew 16:13-20**)
 - iii. The only times Peter got things right is when the Spirit of God spoke to and through Him.
 - b. **Acts 4:8**
 - i. Peter did not answer with his own thoughts but was filled with the Spirit.
 1. You see, the spirit does not speak the wrong things but leads us to speak what is important.
 2. The spirit marked peter by speaking through him to share about the corner stone that the builders, religious leaders, had rejected.
 3. The spirit marked peter by speaking about the only way to have salvation.
 - c. **Acts 1:8**
 - i. The Spirit marked the early disciples and us by His power.
 1. The power to discern and the power to heal.
 2. Peter and john didn't have money to give the beggar but they gave what they had, Jesus!
 - d. **Romans 8:26-27**
 - i. The Spirit marks us before God
 - ii. When we have nothing we can utter in times of trials we can rely on the Spirit to make our plea before God.
 - iii. The Corner stone is our focus then we can rely on His spirit to mark us before God.

e. Galatians 5:22

i. In a world full of offense and hate, we can see how the Holy Spirit marks us with Love, joy, peace, and patience!

1. This world needs people who are grounded in their faith towards Christ and who are letting His Spirit mark them to share the gospel with the world!

2. Marked by His Presence

a. Acts 4:13

i. Peter and John were observed by the religious leaders as being men who were untrained and uneducated. (1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

ii. But they had been with Jesus.

iii. We talk a lot about the importance of being with Jesus, but there is a difference about us that others will observe when we are looking back to our corner stone.

iv. Think about times when you are struggling, where do you turn?

v. Do you look to people around you first or do you truly turn to Jesus? This will help you know what you consider to be your corner stone.

vi. Think back to what I said about the corner stone. When something is wrong they go back to the corner stone to align with it, not the pieces around it.

b. When we look back at Christ as our corner stone we see that we have a heavenly focus not a worldly focus.

c. Colossians 3:1- 2

d.