

# 03 GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

KEY TEXT: 1 PETER 2:1-10

## CENTRAL truth

When we think about what is most central about us, many of us would include things like: gender, our ethnicity, family background, or personal achievements. While all of these shape us, Peter reminds his readers—and us—that **we have been given a new identity through Jesus's work**. This is most central to who we are.

## key question

**Why do you think Peter reminded his readers of their identity in Christ?**

Peter reminded his readers that they should not be surprised when they experience rejection and mistreatment for following Jesus. Jesus was rejected, yet He was chosen and honored by God. In Christ, believers are chosen, holy, and royal, no matter what labels we receive from our surrounding culture.

## keep in mind

- In this week's passage, we find the phrase "chosen race" (CSB). Using the **Culture Note** in this week's session, help students to see that Scripture uses the term "race" a bit differently than we do in our modern world. Peter uses this term to remind believers that the new people of God—the church—is made of people from different ethnicities, genders, and social statuses who have put their faith in Jesus.
- Be aware that students may be entering into this conversation about identity with labels that they have already adopted. Be patient with students as you help them discover their identity in Christ. It may also be helpful to identify other passages that you think may aid you in unpacking this truth (such as John 1:12; Rom. 8:1; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 1:4).

## application

**As God's royal representatives, what are some ways we can serve those around us?**

## the win

**FOR THE STUDENT:** Students ought to leave group with a better understanding of their identity in Christ and how this shapes the way we live.

**FOR THE LEADER:** In our world, students (and adults) are quick to receive all types of labels. Invite students to revisit this week's memory verse as a practical way to remind themselves of who they are in Christ.

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