



Many Christians want to fit in to a culture that God has called them from.

Being Different means:

- God's Spirit lives in you.
- God is transforming you.
- You have Faith for the challenges in life.
- You have different values than the world you live in.
- You have a new calling to live out.

1 This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. 1 Peter 1:1 (NLT)

We need to understand:

- This is not our home.

14 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. Matthew 5:14 (NLT)

6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while.

7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine... 1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)

A necessary perspective:

- God may not make these temporary trials go away, but there is joy ahead.
- Our trials have a purpose.

False Faith:

- Inherited Faith.
- Shallow Faith.
- Conditional Faith.

How God uses your trials:

- Trials reveal your faith.

7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine... 1 Peter 1:7 (NLT)

A faith that has been tested is
a faith that can be trusted.

³¹"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat.

³²But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." Luke 22:31-32 (NLT)

- Trials develop your faith.

2 Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides.

3 You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors.

4 So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way. James 1:2-4 (MSG)

- Trials draw you closer to God.

⁸You love (God) even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. ⁹The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:8-9 (NLT)

Our faith isn't based on what we see,

Our faith is based on who God is.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for your personal time with God.

- What spoke most to you from Sundays Talk? Explain.
- What is something different about you?
- Do you seek to fit into a culture that God has called you from? explain.
- Can you identify with being a foreigner or a stranger? What are some issues we face because we are a foreigner? What does the statement mean to you: "This world is not your home"?
- Why doesn't God miraculously keep us from trials?
- Can you think of a time when a trial revealed your faith? explain.
- How do trials develop our faith?
- How do trials bring us closer to God? What does bringing us closer to God mean to you?
- Are you going through a trial now? How can you begin to trust God more?
- Do you have a different faith for the difficulties in your life? Explain.
- What step can you take to develop a Different faith?

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