**The Truth about Being Built Up by God Study Guide and Small Group Discussion Questions**

The usage of building or carpentry images in the passage reminded the Jews and Gentile believers with whom they should be increasing their association and connection. It also showed how special they were in the eyes of God. In contrast, the apostle Peter explained the identity and destiny of those who reject Jesus (a stumbling block for unbelievers) that their disobedience will lead to their eventual downfall.

*4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him*

What are some common reasons why we, human beings, reject Jesus in our lives? What are some human standards that Jesus does not seem to meet?

How can we help non-believers overcome these reasons or standards?

*5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood*

How are you being built up or being increased by God to be a holy priesthood (a person set apart for God’s service)?

What do you think are some reasons why some Christians are holding back in their service to God? Do you also see some of these reasons in your life?

*8 and, “A stone that causes people to stumble*

*and a rock that makes them fall.”*

Why do you think Jesus doesn’t just transform the minds and hearts of those who reject Him so that they will automatically love Him?

Do you think it’s fair that there are people who are destined to fall or face eternal punishment?

How should this affect the way we evangelize or share the Gospel?

*9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

What is the appropriate response that we should give in light of how God relates with us and what He has done for us?