

**Getting Started:** What would you say to a man who claimed to be a believer, but long ago had given up on the church?

***Bible Study***

**Read: 1 Peter 2:4-12**

1. What encouragement do you discover for “unimpressive churches” in verses 4-8?
2. Who is in a position to tell of God’s actions and how does that affect what we say (vv. 9-10)?
3. What are the tensions and the hopes and the fears, Peter has for Christians relating to the world around them (vv. 11-12)?

**Read: Acts 2:42**

4. Name the priorities of the early church and define each one.

***Discuss***

1. How do you balance work, home, leisure and church responsibilities?

2. How can you encourage others to have those accountable friendships which will build each other up in their Christian lives?
3. “I don’t want to start talking for Jesus until I have the answers. There’s nothing worse than making him look a fool because of my ignorance.” If I followed my own advice, I would never have opened my mouth. What would you say to me, a defensive new convert trying to justify his silence?
4. How can church family life be messy and what should Christian men be doing about it? (82)
5. Explain what the author means about the church being an ‘open circle’ rather than a ‘closed clique.’ (82)

**Going Deeper:**

6. In the NT, men are instructed to take the lead in the church. Review the following passages and identify the responsibilities that men should assume as leaders in the church. (1 Timothy 2:8; Titus 2:2, 6-8)