

# STABLE & SURE

## The Prophesied Cornerstone

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WEEK 1

### WARM-UP

- Do you have a food that you absolutely love but everyone else seems to dislike? Tell us about it.
- What is one thing in your house that you just ignored as a kid, but now can't live without as an adult?
- Is there a person in your life that you didn't necessarily like before but is now close to your heart? Can you tell us about your relationship with that person?

**WORD** <sup>10</sup>*“Have you not read this Scripture: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; <sup>11</sup>this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”*

**MARK 12:10-11**

Traditionally, when structures are built, there is always a cornerstone. It is an essential part of a building's foundation, and without it, the structure would be unstable. In the same way, our lives, without the right, stable cornerstone, would be susceptible to crumbling when trials come our way. Today, let us look at what the Gospel of Mark says about the cornerstone.

## 1 | Jesus is the prophesied cornerstone.

*"Have you not read this Scripture: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone . . .'"* **MARK 12:10**

In an encounter with the Pharisees, Jesus was questioned about who gave Him the authority by which He taught and did miracles. He then began to tell them a parable about the tenants and quoted from one of the prophecies in the Psalms (Psalm 118:21–22; Mark 12:1–11). In effect, Jesus was revealing to the people that He is the Son of God who was sent to them, the cornerstone that God will use for the salvation of all people. What do you think this revelation meant to the people at that time? How does this change or affirm the way you see God and the Lord Jesus?

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## 2 | Jesus was rejected by men.

*"Have you not read this Scripture: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone . . .'"* **MARK 12:10**

Jesus being the cornerstone means that He is of prime importance. But what's ironic is, He is *the stone that the builders rejected*. This happened throughout Jesus' life. He was rejected in His hometown of Nazareth and people there did not believe Him, so much so that He could do no work there (Mark 6:1–6). He was also rejected in many towns where He taught, and some of His disciples eventually left Him because they became offended by His teachings (John 6:60–66). But Jesus was ultimately rejected when the crowds chose Him to be crucified over Barabbas (Matthew 27:17, 21–26). Jesus experienced what it felt like to be rejected, like us. He can relate to and understand every human emotion we face, including rejection. Share an instance when you felt rejected. Knowing that Christ identifies with your rejection and that He

was also rejected for our sakes, how has this changed your perspective of the rejection you experienced?

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### 3 | This was God's plan from the beginning.

*"... this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?"*

**MARK 12:11**

We see from Scripture that Jesus' rejection was planned by God from the very beginning. God allowed it to happen in order to carry out His very own marvelous purposes. Jesus' rejection led Him to be the cornerstone that will ultimately be used by God for the salvation of all people. His perfect life, gruesome death, and victorious resurrection became the way for those who put their trust in Him to be restored to a right relationship with God. How does this encourage you as you face challenges in preaching the gospel?

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## APPLICATION

- The consequence of man's sin was God's rejection and the separation between God and man. Jesus' sacrifice was the ultimate intervention for our salvation and restoration. Have you experienced this to be true in your life? If not, would you like to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior today?
- Is your life built on Jesus, the chief cornerstone? What areas in your life do you need to surrender to His rule? Trust in God that He is our foundation and source of strength.
- Who among your family and friends needs to hear about the saving power of Christ, our cornerstone? Commit to pray for them and preach the gospel to them this week.

