

Born for **THIS!**

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS – April 11th, 2021

- Nobody controls the **CONDITIONS** surrounding their arrival into this world... except God!

God assigned you this identity **ON PURPOSE!**

Then many of you became **CHRISTIANS!**

This changed **EVERYTHING** 1 Peter 2:9-11

An odd new **race**; '**genos**' = offspring, race, kind, species

- First and second century Christians were strange people within the Roman culture

EXCLUSIVE worship - no worship of Roman gods

Controversial **DOCTRINES** - God became man, dies on a cross

Strange **MORAL** proclivities - Life and Sex are sacred

Odd **LOVE** for humanity - help the sick, disabled, vulnerable

A **HYPER-FOCUS** on books - Bible texts were authoritative

- Three **RESPONSES** to following Jesus John 17:14-18

RELIGIOUS Outsider – Live out beliefs **SEPARATED** from culture

CULTURAL Insider – Live **ABSORBED** by culture without distinction

CHRIST Follower – Lived inside culture with **IDIOSYNCRASIES**

Jesus was far more interested in **SAVING** people
than changing the **CULTURE**

DISCOVER (read 1 Peter 2:9-11)

1. What first attracted you to Christianity; was it something done by another Christian?
2. According to vs. 9 what is the job description for Christians living in culture?

EXPLORE

1. Review all the descriptive phrases in 1 Peter 2:9-11. How do they relate to believers? What do these phrases teach us about how God views His children?
2. **In these same verses, how are we to live among our culture? What is God's intended outcome?**
3. Read John 17:14-18. Why is there conflict between culture and Christians? What is the source of this conflict? Why does Jesus NOT ask for Christians to be taken OUT of the culture? Where does Jesus send His children? Why?

EXPERIENCE

1. Of the two extremes, 'Religious Outsider' and 'Cultural Insider', who do you tend to be more like? Why?
2. Where is the balance between staying away from sin and evil, and protecting my family from it, and seeking to save lost people, and having to engage in culture in order to do so?
3. Have you seen other Christians taking one side or the other too far? What was the outcome?
4. In general, do you think Christians today focus too much on changing culture instead of saving people?

COMMITMENT

1. *What actions can you take this week to get relationally closer to unsaved people?*
2. *Do you need to re-evaluate your position of 'Religious Outsider'?*
3. *How can your Life Group reach out to the culture together and make Jesus more famous?*