



**Shift: Learning to Live Missionally**  
**Week 4: Inwardly Strong, Outwardly Focused**

Discussion Questions for Week of 10/26/08

**START IT – Connecting with each other**

- What's your favorite food? When did you last have it? What do you love about it?
- Is your favorite food good for you or bad for you?

**STUDY IT – 1 Peter 2:1-9, 1 Corinthians 9:19-22**

- Read 1 Peter 2:1-9 out loud. What stands out for you in this passage? What questions do you have?
- Look at vv. 2-3. What does “pure spiritual milk” refer to? What happens to us as a result of drinking “pure spiritual milk”?
- What does v. 9 say about who we are? How does it make you feel to know that you are these things that Peter mentions?
- Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-22 out loud. What stands out for you in this passage? What questions do you have?
- Why do you think Paul is so committed to adapting himself to the people to whom he is reaching out?
- Read this passage in the Message translation. What insights do you gain from reading it in this translation?

**LIVE IT – Applying the truth of Scripture to life**

- What expression would you use to describe your desire for “pure spiritual milk”: 1) It would be nice, 2) I'd like it, 3) I want it, 4) I need it, 5) I can't live without it. Why?
- What are some things that make up the foundation of your life? To what extent is Jesus Christ the foundation of your life (give a percentage)?
- What are some things you could do to become more inwardly strong?
- Thinking about 1 Corinthians 9:19-22, what group of people are you especially aware of who need God's love: The poor? Homeless? Homosexuals? Those in nursing homes? Teenagers? What barriers are there between you and these groups? What “rights” would you be willing to give up to love them?

**PRAY IT**

- Application: Ask God to help you grow inwardly so that you'll be better able to focus outwardly.
- Joys and Challenges: What joys and challenges are you facing this week?
- Here at Northminster: Pray for the Session this week as they begin to look ahead to 2009.
- Beyond Northminster: Pray for Reality Changers, a Christian organization in San Diego that helps at-risk teens be the first in their families to attend college