

A Royal Priesthood | 1st Peter

WEEK FIVE | PASTOR BOB JOHNSTON

Horizontal & Vertical Relationships

Identity Thief

- ◇ Satan is a liar and a thief - he wants to steal your identity
- ◇ He uses the media, the culture, your family and friends, words spoken over you and experiences in life.
- ◇ The identity of a believer is not shaped or formed by the world, culture or opinions of others, but through Christ.

So Who Are We in Christ? (1 Peter 2:5 & 9)

- ◇ Living Stones
- ◇ Holy Priesthood
- ◇ Royal Priesthood
- ◇ Holy Nation

How Should We Represent Christ?

- ◇ "Priest" in Latin is "pontifex" meaning to bridge, make a bridge.
- ◇ We are bridge builders for Jesus, representing Him here on earth.
- ◇ Our bodies – Romans 12:1
- ◇ Our praise – Hebrews 13:15
- ◇ Our good works – Hebrews 13:16
- ◇ Our generous giving – Hebrews 13:16
- ◇ Our converts – Romans 15:16
- ◇ Our love – Ephesians 5:1-2
- ◇ Our prayers – Revelation 8:3-4

Declare His Praises (1 Peter 2:9)

- ◇ "to proclaim the praises of Him"
- ◇ Deuteronomy 7:6-8
- ◇ Acts 1:8
- ◇ God made you who you are so you could tell the world who He is!

SCRIPTURES

1 Peter 2:5-9
 Romans 12:1
 Hebrews 13:16
 Romans 15:16
 Ephesians 5:1-2
 Revelation 8:3-4
 Deuteronomy 7:6-8
 Acts 1:8

TAKEAWAY

"We are a royal priesthood, a holy nation called to declare the glories of our God to the world.."

KNOW

GROW | Small Group Questions

Opening question: Have you ever thrown something out (or given something away) that you later realized you needed? Share this, along with how you felt, and if you took any steps to retrieve the item.

1. When have you discarded something, only to discover later that you had a real need for it? What steps did you take to get back the discarded item?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:4-10 together.
 - a. Consider the original “living stone” (v. 4). What was the contrast between the true identity of that living stone and how he was misunderstood?
 - b. What different words and phrases does Peter use to describe Christians?
 - c. Which descriptive word or phrase resonates the most with you, and why?
3. The “holy nation” Peter speaks of refers to people of all ethnicities and nations.
 - a. What practical effect can this reality of a multinational and multiethnic people of God have on our local churches

GO

Read 1 Peter 2:4-10 again and write down the different words Peter uses to describe Christ-followers. This week, pray through each description. Ask God to form these in you. Declare them to be true in your life.

For example: You Are a Chosen People (v. 9)
 “Father, thank you for choosing me to be a part of your family.. Help me realize your purpose in my life.”

“I am a part of the chosen people of God. God has chosen me for a purpose.”

“Father reveal your purpose clearly this day, and help me to live it out in fullness.”

