gracechurch of Sahuarita

A Kingdom of Priests

October 25, 2026

Key Verses

- Exodus 19:4-6
- Romans 8:4
- John 15:12-13
- Zechariah 12:10

Questions

- God reminded Israel of His past goodness before giving them His commands. How does reflecting on what Christ has already done for you personally help you trust Him with what He is asking of you now?
- Pastor Fred described Israel's role as a "kingdom of priests," meant to connect a sinful world to a holy God. Even though we are not the nation of Israel, what does this role look like for the Church today in your neighborhood, workplace, or family?
- Israel responded to God's covenant proposal with "All that the Lord has spoken, we will do!" Have you ever made a sincere commitment to God that you later struggled to keep? What did that experience teach you about your need for the Holy Spirit's power?
- The sermon emphasized that Israel's repeated failures under the Law were meant to point them to their need for Christ and a new covenant including the indwelling Holy Spirit. How does understanding Israel's story change the way you read the Old Testament and appreciate the new covenant?

- Pastor Fred drew a contrast between Israel at Sinai and the Church today, saying we have been given something far greater through the Holy Spirit. How are you personally relying on the Spirit's power rather than your own effort to obey God's commands?
- Jesus summed up His mandate for the church in John 15:12 with the command to love one another as He has loved us. What does that kind of sacrificial love look like in a local church setting, and where do you find it most challenging?
- The sermon described the Church as a "substitute quarterback," carrying the light to the nations while Israel is set aside for a season. How does knowing that God has a global and eternal purpose for His people motivate you in your everyday life?
- Pastor Fred closed by challenging the church to be the brightest possible light for Jesus Christ in our time. What is one specific area of your life where you sense God calling you to greater obedience or greater boldness in reflecting Him to the world?

Life Application

This week, take time each morning to reflect on one specific way God has shown His goodness to you, whether through salvation, provision, answered prayer, or His Word. Let that reflection fuel a simple, honest prayer of commitment: 'Lord, because of how good You have been to me, I want to do what You are asking me to do today. Help me to walk in the power of Your Spirit and not my own strength.' Then look for one concrete opportunity to do priestly work, pointing someone around you toward Jesus through a word of encouragement, an act of service, or a conversation about faith.

Key Takeaways

- God's appeal to Israel at Mount Sinai was grounded in His demonstrated goodness. Reflecting on what God has already done for us should open our hearts to what He is calling us to do next.
- Israel was called to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation, set apart to connect the surrounding world to God. The church today carries a similar calling as Christ's representatives sent into the world.
- Israel's sincere commitment at Sinai was the right response, but their repeated failures revealed that good intentions are not enough. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to actually live out what God commands.

- The law given at Sinai was never meant to be the final word. It was designed to point Israel and all of us forward to Jesus Christ and the new covenant, where the Spirit empowers genuine obedience.
- God's purposes for Israel are not finished. In the Millennial Kingdom, a believing, Spirit-filled Israel will finally fulfill her calling, and the Church will reign alongside Christ as well.

3 Things

G — GLORIFY | God's Provision (Philippians 4:19)
Praise God for His faithfulness in providing for our needs and sustaining us through every circumstance.
A — ALIGN | Spiritual Maturity (2 Peter 3:18)
Ask God to help us grow in spiritual maturity, becoming more like Christ in our thoughts, attitudes, and actions.
P — PETITION | Government Leaders (1 Timothy 2:1–2)
Pray for our congressional and state representatives, asking God to give them wisdom, integrity, and discernment as they make decisions affecting our communities and nation.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for this time together in Your Word. Thank You that You are a good King who has proven Your love for us at the cross and continues to provide for us every day. Just as You called Israel to be Your treasured possession and a kingdom of priests, You have called us to reflect You to the world around us. We confess that we cannot do this in our own strength, and we are grateful that You have not asked us to. Fill us afresh with Your Holy Spirit this week. Give us ears to hear Your commands, hearts that are willing to obey, and the courage to be a bright light for You wherever You have placed us. May our lives point others to You, the King who reigns forever and ever. In Your name we pray, amen.