

Chosen Series pt. 4

June 26, 2022

How the Gospel Changes Our Future

1 Peter 2:9 ... But you are a chosen people, *set aside to be a royal order of priests, a holy nation, God's own*; so **that you may** proclaim the wondrous acts of the One who **called you out of inky darkness into shimmering light**. (Voice)

Matt 4:16-17 ...the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those **living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned**." From that time on Jesus began to preach, "**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.**"

Big Idea: We are called by God to show others the goodness of God.

You Were Called Out of _____ (Past)

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|---------------------------------|---|
| – inky darkness (1 Peter 2:9) | – Orphan Spirit (1 Peter 2:10) |
| – Shadow of Death (Matt 4:16) | – Dominion of Darkness (Col 1:12) |
| – Deeds of Darkness (Rom 13:12) | – Fruitless and Shameful Deeds (Eph 5:11) |

You Were Called Into _____ (Present)

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| – Shimmering Light (1 Peter 2:10) | – Armor of Light (Rom 13:12) |
| – God's Family (1 Thess 4:10) | – Goodness, Righteousness, and Truth (Eph 5:9) |
| – the Kingdom of Light (Col 1:12) | – the kingdom of the Son (Col 1:13) |
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Passover Seder Prayer

"... we request of G-d to be taken from the *afeilah* (**blinding darkness**) of **exile** into the *ohr gadol* (**great**) **light of redemption**."

You Were Called To _____ (Future)

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| – Proclaim Wondrous Acts (1 Peter 2:10) | – New People (1 Peter 2:10) |
| – Be Fruitful and Multiply (Mat 28:19) | – Into His Spiritual Family (Eph 1:5) |
| – a New Vision (2 Cor 4:6) | – a Bright Hope (John 10:10) |
| – Victory (Rom 8:37-39) | – a Heavenly Home (Phil 3:20) |

Matthew 5:13 -16 (MSG)

"Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the **God-flavors of this earth**. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

14-16 "Here's another way to put it: **You're here to be light**, bringing out the **God-colors in the world**. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. **If I make you light-bearers**, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! **Keep open house; be generous with your lives**. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

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Discuss and Apply

Use the following questions to help you formulate age-appropriate questions to stimulate conversation that matter. Please share your ideas and experiences with us at connect@manna.church.

1. Do you remember when you were in spiritual darkness? What was it like?
2. What do you think the Bible means when it says God has called you out of darkness and into His marvelous light? (1 Peter 2:9)
3. God calls us by name, but we don't necessarily hear the audible voice of God. How does this work? (John 10:14–15) Would you be able to share your story with someone else? Why not practice by sharing your story with a loved one this week.
4. What's one way you can show the goodness of God to someone who needs it this week?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins. I acknowledge that I have sinned and that I cannot save myself. I believe that Jesus came to give me *eternal, spiritual life*, and by faith I now choose to receive You into my life as my Lord and my Savior.

Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit and enable me to be the person You created me to be. I pray you will help me say NO to my old thought patterns and destructive habits and appetites. Help me to reflect deeply on your truth so that I can experience *my new identity and freedom in Christ being transformed by the renewing of my mind*.

In Jesus' precious name I pray. Amen.

At Manna We Believe

God created man in His own image, in a state of original righteousness, from which he subsequently fell by a voluntary revolt, and as a consequence is guilty, inherently corrupt, and subject to divine wrath. The unregenerate are totally depraved and do not possess a will free from the dominion of the sin nature.