

“Why” Serve

I Peter 1: 4-10
September 8, 2019
Sermon Series: Start with “Why”
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THE BIG IDEA

This message looks at the reason behind service and why we serve God, the kingdom of God and other people. The answer – there’s dignity in the call and we’re going to serve something or someone, one way or another. We’re all made for service and Joshua 24: 14-15 shows us also that we can serve Yahweh or false gods which can include our ego ideal, other people, our boss and our plethora of choices in a choice-driven society. When we serve God we serve him who calls us chosen, royal, holy, God’s special possession, and a people called into light. It says we’re a royal priesthood. Further, God wants us to focus more on who we are than where.

GETTING STARTED

1. What’s been a job you’ve been the most proud of and enjoyed?

LEARNING & LIVING OUT SCRIPTURE

Together, read I Peter 1: 4-10

2. Consider the requirements of being a priest prior to the first century –

You had to be in the Tribe of Levites

Be Perfectly Fit and Healthy –no physical ailments or even a skin rash

Between ages 25-50

Abide by a Strict Moral Code

Required to be a Director descendant of Aaron – the brother of Moses

Priests were mediators to Christ and representatives of his kingdom on earth. What would the response be to first century Jews; do you think that THEY are the priesthood? All of them through Christ the high priest.

3. What do you make of the language that we are each stones building a spiritual house? What does that say about you?
4. Examine the labels given to you – royal, chosen, holy, a special possession, and called. Explain each of those words and the weight and meaning of the call.

LIVING OUT “REAL LIFE”

5. Consider the dignity of the call of Christ and what this passage says about you. Why does that matter? Think about some of the challenges we face in discerning our “vocation,” and what this Scripture really says about our permanent one.

6. How are you contributing to the Body of Christ – i.e., this spiritual, collective house? If you're not, make a commitment to serve the kingdom of God in the church. We're a part of a royal priesthood – collectively. We each make a contribution.

THE “EXTRA-MILE”

7. Either commit yourself in some capacity of service to build up the church or invite someone else to if you are already.

SHARING & PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for our challenges in the world today – for our cultural violence (recent shootings) and the issues surrounding climate changes.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

“God is in charge of history. All history is going to him. He’s going to be the Judge at the end of history, not just the Creator at the beginning. He’s your Alpha. He’s your Omega. And so it’s important you operate in your daily life in accordance with these great and vast truths. What this means is Jesus must be your Omega point. Jesus must be your point. There are two ways to approach God, only two ways. You can either make him the means and something else the end or you can make him the end and everything else the means. There are only two ways to approach God.” Tim Keller