

A Traveler's Guide: The Church, Priests on a Mission

April 28, 2019

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

1 Peter 2:9-12; Hab 2:14; Ex 19:4-6; Isa 43:1-21

Pastor Mark Turner

Peter - gives an interesting description of the Church: 1 Pet 2:9-12

- The Church described in Scripture:
 - the people of God called to display God's goodness to the world
 - Bride formed by Christ's redeeming work Rev 21:2,9; 2 Cor 11:2
 - a place where saint equipped, shepherded, built up to do the missionary work of ministry Eph 4:11-12
 - The Church Is God's people who live distinctively by God's grace through the power of the Spirit under the reign and rule of King Jesus to the glory of our heavenly Father.
 - Church is to be declaring/displaying God's glory Hab 2:14
- Church as Royal Priesthood
 - Exodus 19:4-6 - redeemed assembly called to be a priestly kingdom & holy assembly
 - Priests make God known & show forth God's provision v9
- Church is always to be proclaiming:
 - Isa 43 - msg to exiles like 1 Peter 1:1; 5:13
 - His people are redeemed 1, chosen, treasured possession 4
 - May be times of exile (Dt 28:15, 49-68), God still uses His people
 - God restores so that we might declare His praise 16-21
 - contrast w/ 1 Pet 2:11-12 let us then live... so God is praised!
- Church is *ecclesia*, in both OT & NT:
 - Dt 9:10 - OT called assembly or Church
 - Peter uses OT terms to remind we also are an exiled church being called to live in such a way God is praised!
 - Jesus: Mt 5:14-16 - Ya'll are the light of the world.

Truth Applied: • Church is not a building or institution, but God's people in action

- we must do more than good works, we must also proclaim Good News 1 Peter 2:9
- We are to declare the reason for the hope we have 1 Pet 3:15
- Our Mission is our very lives lived in Gospel Truth in everyday life!
 - 1 Peter 2:13-17 = our life in society
 - 1 Peter 2:18-25 = our life in the workplace
 - 1 Peter 3:1-7 = our life in the home

Discuss & Ask:

- What can we do as a Church family do to help one another and create a God glorifying community which is attractive to those in the world?
- How can I help and encourage others within our church live as God's family and be more intentional in living our lives on mission for Jesus?
- How is my (our) life different from the world because of the Gospel? What can we do to live more intentionally for the Gospel to our neighbors, in the workplace, at home?
- When people see us, who or what are we attracting people to? Is the Gospel the attraction that we are displaying or is it events or programs?

Reality Check: Practice using the 4 Gospel questions

- 1) Who is God?
- 2) What has He done?
- 3) Who am I in light of God's work?
- 4) How should I live in light of who I am? *Practice asking yourself and others these questions many times each day!*

Gospel Truths to Remember Every Moment 4 G's

- God is Great (*Ps 145:3*) so we don't have to be in control
Symptoms: overbearing, inflexible, avoid risks, impatient with others, avoid responsibility, get frustrated, always busy, always worrying.
- God is Glorious (*Ps 145:5*). so we do not have to fear others
Symptoms: fear others, low self-esteem, don't have status we think we deserve, controlled by other's expectations.
- God is Good (*Ps 145:9*). so we don't have to look elsewhere
Symptoms: never satisfied, easily bored, pursuit of things or experiences, serve for what we get in return.
- God is Gracious (*Ps 145:8*). so we don't have to prove ourselves
Symptoms: constant need to justify self, worry you aren't doing enough, find it hard to relax, envious of others, make others feel guilty.

How would reviewing these 4 G's during the day help you live intentionally for God's glory?