

You ARE God's People **1 Peter 1:1-2, 2:4-10**

Two cultural challenges for God's people:

Rugged individualism

It's all about me

It's all up to me

Community can never be optional

Rampant consumerism

It's about what I like

It's about I want

Community is never about just me

Distinguishing the imperative and the indicative

The command:

What the church should be

What the church is told to be

The description:

What the church is created to be

What the church in fact is

God's expectation for the church:

Do not be conformed

Be like Jesus

Live a lifestyle of holiness

God's realities for the church:

You are the house of God, his temple

The presence of God among the people

The place where people experience God

You are a chosen people

Pursued by God's grace

Fulfilling God's purpose

You are a royal priesthood

Representing others to God

Representing God to others

You are a holy nation

A kingdom where Jesus is our king

A kingdom currently present in the world

You are God's special possession

We are no longer our own

We are no longer ordinary

Two wonderful contrasts

Once we were nobodies

Now we are God's people

Once we were guilty as hell

Now we are fully forgiven

Are we willing to be who we are?

1Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

13Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

2:4As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame."

7Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

"The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,"

8and,

"A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

9But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

10Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

You ARE God's People
1 Peter 1:1-2, 2:4-10

Two cultural challenges for God's people:

Rugged _____
It's all _____ me
It's all _____ me
Community can never be _____

Rampant _____
It's about what I _____
It's about what I _____
Community is never about just _____

Distinguishing the _____ and the _____

The _____:
What the church _____ be
What the church is _____ to be

The _____:
What the church is _____ to be
What the church _____ is

God's _____ for the church:

Do not be _____
Be like _____
Live a lifestyle of _____

God's _____ for the church:

You are the _____ of God, his _____
The _____ of God among the people
The place where people _____ God

You are a _____
Pursued by God's _____
Fulfilling God's _____

You are a royal _____
Representing _____ to _____
Representing _____ to _____

You are a holy _____
A kingdom where _____ is our _____
A kingdom currently _____ in the _____

You are God's _____
We are no longer our _____
We are no longer _____

Two wonderful _____

Once we were _____
Now we are _____
Once we were guilty as _____
Now we are fully _____

Are we _____ to be who we _____?