WE ARE A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD (Kingdom Series 3 of 3)

1 Peter 2:4-10 Key Verse: 9

"But 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."

1. What metaphor is used here for Jesus, and what does it mean (4)? What is happening to those who come to Jesus (5)? How is this shown in Peter's life (Mt 16:18)? What does it mean to be a spiritual house and a holy priesthood?

2. How does Peter support his teaching about Jesus and believers (6-8)? Why does Peter describe Jesus as a cornerstone? What are the two responses to this stone, and the outcome of each response?

3. Read verse 9. What is the new identity of believers? Think about: "chosen people," "royal priesthood," "holy nation," and, "God's special possession" (Ex 19:5-6; Rev 1:6). How should this affect how we see ourselves and the community of believers?

4. What do believers declare (9b)? How is this related to believers' new identity (9-10)? What is your personal testimony how God has called you out of darkness into his wonderful light?

5. In view of this passage, how can we live as God's kingdom people?