

# Priestly Insights from the Tabernacle

(Insights from Exodus 35 - 40)

Pastor Bob Johnson, Grace Point Church, June 4th, 2017

## Our Role as a Christ Follower includes being ...

(Exodus 35:4-19, 1 Peter 2:9, Hebrews 8:1-2, Exodus 25:8-9)

### Tabernacle Truths For Us Today:

#### 1. The Fence & Gate signified ...

As Priests, we are called to ...

(John 1:12, 3:16-17, 3:36)

#### 2. The Bronze Altar & Basin

(Leviticus 17:11, Ex. 30:17-21, Prov. 14:4, Acts 24:16, Prov. 28:13)

As Priests, we are called to ...

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#### 3. The Holy Place: Menorah, Table of Shewbread, Altar of Incense

(Exodus 26, John 15:5, Heb 6:10-12, Ps 141:1-2, Mark 1:35-37)

As Priests, ministry is a ... (public & private)

As Priests, ministry only lasts when ...

oil represents ...

wick represents ...

As Priests, ministry is never ...

As Priests, a ministry priority is ...

As Priests, a ministry priority is ...

#### 4. The Holy of Holies: Manna, Aaron's rod, Tablets

(Exodus 36, Exodus 16:28, Numbers 16-17, Proverbs 3:5-6)

As Priests, it is important to trust ...

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## This Week's Discussion Guide:

### Our Spring 'Small Group Season' is almost over at GPC!

Our Exodus series wrapped up this week and we have one more message to cover next week as we look at Numbers 13-14. Next week we will look at what happens when God says it is time to finally enter the land He promised them. We'll see things don't go exactly as planned.

Our groups at GPC meet for nine months throughout the year. These nine months are broken up in three seasons. We meet from September - November, take December off, meet again from January - March, and then from April - mid June. After we take July and August off, we start it all over again :).

### Getting Started:

This past Sunday, we took a look at the Tabernacle. That special, portable tent enclosure that God had the Israelites build as they made their way from Mount Sinai toward Canaan. This Tabernacle was a special place that had special meaning to the Israelites. To get us started, what special place have you visited that was memorable to you? It didn't have to be fancy, but it was a special place for you. Why was it special? When you visited it, did it meet your expectations?

Read 1 Peter 2:9. When Bob said that all those who are Christ followers are priests, how did that make you feel?

Which of the 12 'Tabernacle Truths' that was covered last Sunday stood out to you? Were any new insights for you? Did any prompt you to do some further investigating?

One of the priestly roles that was covered was that we are called to share the gospel. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. How would you describe the 'message of reconciliation' that we are encouraged to share with others? What do you feel are some common misconceptions of the gospel to those who haven't yet chosen to become Christ followers? Can you summarize what Bob meant when he said, "As priests, we are called to share with and support others but not save them." ?

## **Digging Deeper:**

Let's look at some New Testament passages that can provide some further insight from what we have been studying in the book of Exodus these past weeks.

**1.** As we are called to minister to others and share the good news of the gospel with others, we have lots of examples in the Bible to learn from. One of the passages we can learn from is when Jesus spent time with a Samaritan woman in John 4.

Read John 4:1-35. In studying this passage, what insights do you see related to ministering to others?

To help add to your discussion, here are a few related questions:

How did Jesus begin the conversation?

Why did he bring up who she was currently living with?

Why do you think she responded the way she did?

What did Jesus mean from what he said in v32?

What did Jesus mean regarding the harvest field in v35?

From this text, what can we apply to how we love and share with others?

**2.** Jesus is called our great High Priest. In John 17, we have his 'high priestly prayer'.

Read John 17:1-21. What verse or verses stand out to you that encourage you, stretch you, or prompt a question related to ministry?

**3.** One of the Priestly roles that was looked at this past Sunday was praying for others. As this is one of our last meetings together before our summer break, take some extended time (maybe more than you usually do in our meetings) to pray for each other.

Galatians 6:2 encourages us to, "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law (or desires) of Christ."

What is heavy on each of your hearts?

Read 1 Peter 5:6-9. As you pray together, also pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ all over the world that are being persecuted for their faith and commitment to spread the gospel?

## **WRAPPING UP ...**

Is there any specific application that God might be prompting you to live out this week?