

Growing in Faith.
“The Priesthood of Believers”

- ❖ “Growing in faith, in Christ” is a biblical principle and a biblical command.

“... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ”. 2Peter 3:18

“Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. John 15:4

- ❖ “The Priesthood of All Believers” is a principle of how God wanted his people to operate in the Old Testament.

Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.” Exodus 9:3-6

- ❖ “The Priesthood of All Believers” is a principle of how God wants his people to operate in the New Testament.

“You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, 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.

¹¹Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. ¹²Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.” 1Peter 2:9-12

What does “The Priesthood of the Believers” look like.

It starts with our “Identity in Christ”.

Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:3-5

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, ²⁷for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:26-29

A New Testament Priest is a:

1. Someone who functions as God’s representative in the world.
2. Someone who acts as the people’s representative to God. Ephesians 2:6
3. Anyone who has experienced the love, acceptance, and forgiveness of God.

The mission God wants you to accomplish as his priest is:

- A. Make Jesus Christ real. Bring the living Christ into all the circumstances of life.
- B. Be channels of God’s grace. Matthew 16:19
- C. Proclaim the mighty acts of God.

- ❖ Each us has been given a personal and nontransferable mission: to make Christ real in our lives and to share Christ grace so that others may know God’s gift of salvation.
- ❖ The challenge before our church today is will the people of God stand up and be the Priests God has called us to be.