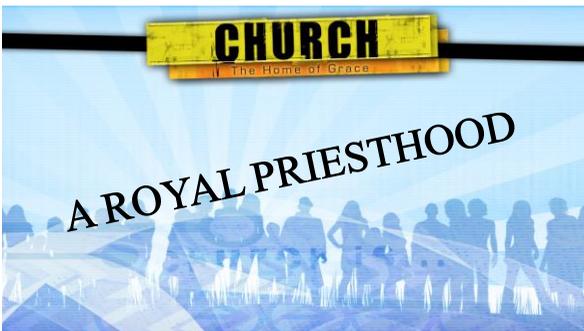


CHURCH
The Home of Grace

What does that word mean to you?

- A building?
- Something you do on a Sunday?
- Haven't really thought about it?
- A means to get your child into a certain school?



CHURCH
The Home of Grace

1 Peter 2 v4-10

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ, For it stands in Scripture:

CHURCH
The Home of Grace

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

CHURCH
The Home of Grace

and

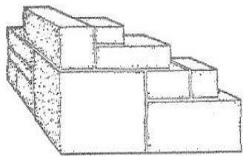
“A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

CHURCH
The Home of Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

JESUS: CORNERSTONE OR STUMBLING BLOCK?




WHAT DOES A PRIEST LOOK LIKE?



Robes?
Smells and bells?
Christenings, marriages and funerals?
Confession?

WHAT DOES A PRIEST LOOK LIKE?



A priest in the tabernacle or temple administered sacrifices to God on behalf of the people.
They served God primarily. They also served the people.

1 Peter 2 v 4-6
As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

WHAT DOES A PRIEST LOOK LIKE?



HOW DOES THIS AFFECT KINGI WHANAU/KINGS CHURCH?

What does it mean for me?

WHAT DOES A PRIEST DO?

Human beings instinctively sacrifice:

- Saving for child's future
- Spending money
- Giving time

WHAT DOES A PRIEST DO?

1 Peter 2 v 9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

WHAT DOES A PRIEST DO?

Living sacrifices (Rom 12)

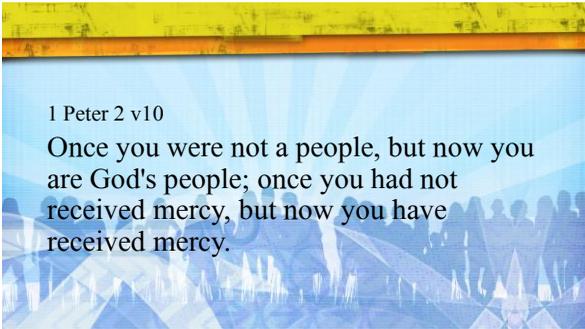
Lives surrendered, submitted and committed to loving and worshiping God.



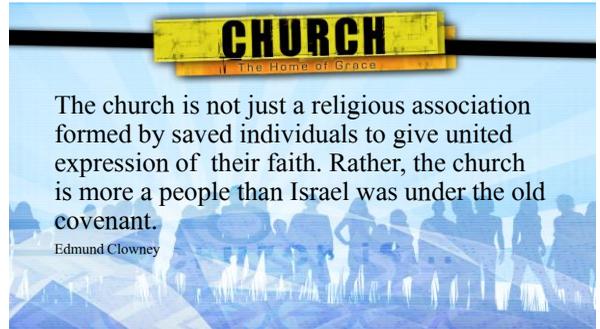
WHAT DOES A PRIEST DO?

1 John 3 v 16 – 18

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.



1 Peter 2 v10
Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.



CHURCH
The Home of Grace

The church is not just a religious association formed by saved individuals to give united expression of their faith. Rather, the church is more a people than Israel was under the old covenant.

Edmund Clowney