

You are a Royal Priesthood – God calls and equips Christians to serve one another

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WORKSHEET

I. God's Calling to Serve in our Lives—Considering our Vocations

Vocation: _____ from God to serve _____ and _____.

3 Realms/Estates: _____

Introductions My Name: _____

A Family Vocation: _____

A Congregational Calling: _____

An Occupational Vocation: _____

A Community Calling: _____

“Earthly” Calling and Identity Factors

“Heavenly” Identity and Calling Factors

+ In Baptism you were made a _____ of God.

+ Called through the Gospel, you became a _____ of Jesus Christ.

+ The Holy Spirit made you a _____ of the Body of Christ.

+ Others:

Priesthood Identity: “Hello, I am _____, a member of the Royal and Holy
Priesthood of all Believers.”

TODAY'S QUESTION: What does this identity mean to me?

Secret Agents (See John Kleinig, Grace Upon Grace, pp. 63-65)

Priestly Identity Gives Purpose to Earthly Callings

LSB 646:1 *Church of God, Elect and Glorious; Holy nation, chosen race;
Called as God's own special people, Royal Priests and heirs of grace;
Know the purpose of your calling, Show to all his mighty deeds;
Tell of love that knows no limits, Grace that meets all human needs.*

II. God's Calling to Christians to Serve as the Royal Priesthood of All Believers—Bible Study

Priest: People who in relation to God who are _____ holy and _____ to serve God and others according to His will.

Secondary Usage: A _____ sense where the word's meaning is a metaphoric application of its original signification.

Primary Usage – An Old Testament Temple Priest

- + Separated and anointed (Exodus 30:22-38)
- + Representative (Exodus 28, esp. vv. 28-38)
- + Mediator of the covenant (Malachi 2:4ff)
- + Maintain holiness (Exodus 28:36-38)
- + Offers sacrifices (Leviticus 1-9)
- + Blesses God's people (Numbers 6:22-27)
- + Instructs God's people (Malachi 2:7)
- + Offers Prayer (2 Chronicles 30:27)

Primary Usage – Jesus Christ our Great High Priest

Hebrews 9:11-14 Jesus _____

What did Jesus take into the presence of God to secure redemption?

What does Jesus' blood do for you and me?

When made holy, what is it possible for us to do?

Mark 1:21-22 Jesus _____

John 17, Romans 8:34 Jesus _____

Secondary Usage – God's People as a Holy, Royal Priesthood

Exodus 19:5-6 - Foundational Old Testament Text

Representative persons

PriestHOOD

Secondary Usage, Continued – God’s People as a Holy, Royal Priesthood

1 Peter 2:5,9 – Key New Testament Text

A simple outline of 1 Peter centered around the priesthood texts:

Chapter 1	Jesus as Savior
Chapter 2:1-12	Call to be God’s People (Priesthood)
Chapter 2:13 to Ch. 5	Vocations

2:5 spiritual _____

Romans 12:1 _____ sacrifices

Spiritual act of _____

2:9 _____ the excellencies of him who called you...

Revelation 1:5-6, 5:9-10

Christ’s priestly _____

Makes us His kingdom and _____

III. The Ministry of Christ and the Priesthood of all the Baptized

Holy, Royal Priesthood created by the _____ of Christ given out in _____ and _____, Means of Grace.

The Priesthood of all the Baptized

See Acts 2:38, Galatians 3:27, Romans 6:3-4, Titus 3:5-7, 1 Peter 3:21

*Grant, O God, the strength and courage To live the faith, our lips declare;
Bless us in our baptismal calling; Christ’s royal priesthood, help us share.
Turn us from ev’ry false allegiance, That we may trust in Christ alone:
Raise up in us a chosen people Transformed by love to be your own. (LSB 600:3)*

Priests called to be Pastors

The “mutual conversation and consolation of brothers and sisters in Christ” (SA 3rd Art, #4)

Two Kinds of Righteousness: + Before God (vertical) + Before Humanity (horizontal)

TODAY’S QUESTION: What does the gift of my priesthood identity and calling mean for my earthly callings?

IV. Priestly Identity Forming Christians for Daily Vocational Service

Martin Luther on the Royal Priesthood (See Norman Nagel, CTQ, Vol 61, Num 4, Oct 1997)

The 3-fold shape of priestly work

1. _____ (for God in serving others)
2. _____ (speak to God for others)
3. _____ (speak to others for God)

An example of the work of the priesthood in a congregational setting

Small group intercessory prayer (Handouts)

An example of the formation and work of the priesthood in the home

Daily family prayer (Handouts)

Conclusion

Secret Agency of the Royal Priesthood

“Royal priests fulfill your calling!”

*Church of God, elect and holy, Be the priests he intends;
Strong in faith and swift to answer Each command your master sends:
Royal priests fulfill your calling Through your sacrifice and prayer;
Give your lives in joyful service—Sing his praise, his love declare.*

“Kings and priests to reign on earth”

*All creation, all redemption; Join to the sing the Savior’s worth;
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, Kings and priests to reign on earth.
Wealth and wisdom, pow’r and glory, Honor, might, dominion, praise,
Now be his from all creatures And to everlasting days.*