

5.22.16 Primer

What is the Church?

Hear the Good News:

[4] As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, [5] 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. [6] For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." [7] So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," [8] and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. [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 marvelous light. [10] 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. (1 Peter 2:4-10 ESV)

The Point:

The church is God's people filled with God's presence to accomplish God's purposes.

Quote:

"The union of heaven and earth is what the story of the Bible is all about." - Tim Mackie, The Bible Project

Embrace the Good News:

1. What does this passage teach about God? (His commands, his expectations, his characteristics, his desires)
2. What does this passage teach about man in his natural, unspiritual state?
3. What does this passage teach about God's expectations for followers of Jesus?
4. With what we've discussed, try to summarize the passage in your own words as if you were explaining it to a friend.

Live the Good News:

1. What does this passage mean for disciples who make disciples?
2. What does it mean for leaders who make more leaders?

3. How does this passage impact the way that you live out the Good News in your home and in your relationships with friends and family?
 - a. Parents: How can you model these truths to your kids and help them to understand these complex concepts?
4. How does it impact the way that you weave the thread of the gospel as you interact with your church family? In our local community? To the ends of the earth?
5. Come up with 1-3 "I will" statements in response to this passage that address the way you view God or the way that you live your life.