

MESSAGE 3. OUR MISSION: GLORIFYING GOD BY EVANGELIZING EVERY CREATURE
Evangelism is the duty and blessing of every local Church and Christian.

Outline of 1 Peter 2:4-12

1. THE MEANING OF THE CHURCH	What is the Church?
2. THE MARK OF THE CHURCH	Are you part of the Church?
3. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH	What should you do in the Church?
4. THE MOTIVATIONS OF THE CHURCH	Why should you be active in the Church?
5. THE MARCH OF THE CHURCH	What else should characterize the Church?

1 Peter 2:4-12: "4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, **to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.** 6 For this is contained in Scripture: "Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious cornerstone, and he who believes in Him will not be disappointed." 7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, "The stone which the builders rejected, this became the very cornerstone," 8 and, "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, **so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;** 10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy 11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. 12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation".

1. THE MEANING OF THE CHURCH: THE S_____ P_____ OF GOD IN C_____

Section: "4 And **coming to Him as to a living stone** which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 **you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house** for a holy priesthood"; "9 But you are **a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession**".

Ephesians 2:20: "19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and **are of God's household,** 20 having been **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone,** 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into **a holy temple in the Lord,** 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit".

Who is the Gate of the Church? Who gives Eternal life? O___ J_____. We must be "**coming to Him**" (1 Peter 2:4) for Jesus said: "**I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no**



one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:6) and **"I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved"** (John 10:9), as Paul and Peter also instructed us, no one can be saved (even in unreached tribes) without faith in Christ:

Acts 4:12: **"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved"**. 1 Timothy 2:5: **"For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"**.

2. THE MARK OF THE CHURCH: L____ FOR J_____

Section: "6 For this is contained in Scripture: "Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, **a precious cornerstone**, and he who believes in Him will not be disappointed. 7 **This precious value, then, is for you who believe**; but **for those who disbelieve**, "The stone which the builders rejected, this became the very cornerstone," 8 and, "A stone of **stumbling and a rock of offense**"; for they stumble because **they are disobedient to the word**, and to this doom they were also appointed".

Revelation 2:1,4-5: "1 To the angel of the church in Ephesus write [...] 4 But I have this against you, **that you have left your first love**. 5 Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and **will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent**".

Am I part of the Church? Am I truly saved? Answer one question: **Do I really love Jesus?**
1 Corinthians 16:22: **"If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed. Maranatha"**.
John 8:42: "Jesus said to them, **"If God were your Father, you would love Me"**.

3. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH: PROCLAIMING G__ FOR GOD'S G_____ AND THE S_____ SALVATION OF TRUE W_____

Section: Verse 5b-c: "for a holy priesthood, **to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God** through Jesus Christ"; Verse 9b **"so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light"**.

WHAT IS THE OVERARCHING MISSION? **GLORIFYING G__ THROUGH THE C_____**

Ephesians 3:21 **"to Him be the glory in the church** and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen". **How are we supposed to glorify God through the Church?**
Grace Community Church summarizes it this way: *"the purpose of the church is to glorify God (Ephesians 3:21) by building itself up in the faith (Ephesians 4:13-16), by instruction of the Word (2 Timothy 2:2, 15; 3:16-17), by fellowship (Acts 2:47; 1 John 1:3), by keeping the ordinances (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42) and by advancing and communicating the gospel to the entire world (Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8; 2:42)."*

I. Spiritual Sacrifices Acceptable to God through Jesus (v. 5b-c). (a) Praise – Hebrews 13:15: “Through Him then, let us continually **offer up a sacrifice of praise to God**, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name”; (b) Prayer (Revelation 8:3); (c) Renewal in the Word for every good work (Romans 12:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:16-17); (c) doing good deeds (Hebrews 13:16); (d) Financially supporting the mission – 2 Corinthians 8: “8 I am not speaking this as a command, but **as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity of your love** also. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus **Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor**, so that you through His poverty might become rich [...] 14 at this present time **your abundance being a supply for their need**”. (e) Evangelism – Romans 15:16: “to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as **a priest the gospel of God, so that my offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable**, sanctified by the Holy Spirit”.

II. Proclaiming the Excellencies of God to the Lost; see v. 9b which is quoting Isaiah 43:21: “**The people whom I formed for Myself will declare My praise**”, in context, so much is akin to Isaiah 43: such as verse 20: “My chosen people”; verse 6c-7: “Bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the ends of the earth, 7 **everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made**”, “10 [...] **Before Me there was no God** formed, and there will be none after Me. 11 “I, even I, **am the Lord**, and **there is no savior besides Me** 12 [...] **I am God**. 13 **Even from eternity I am He**, and there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?” 14 Thus says the Lord **your Redeemer**, the Holy One of Israel [...] 15 “I am the **Lord, your Holy One**, The **Creator** of Israel, **your King**” (v.13-15).

John 4:23-24: “23 But an hour is coming, and now is, when the **true worshipers** will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for **such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers**. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth”.

Matthew 28:19-20: “19 Go therefore and **make disciples of all the nations, baptizing** them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 **teaching** them **to observe all that I commanded you**; and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age.”.

- 4. THE MOTIVATIONS OF THE CHURCH:**
- I. REMEMBER WHERE YOU **C**_____ **F**_____
 - II. REMEMBER GOD’S **E**_____
 - III. REMEMBER GOD’S **W**_____
 - IV. REMEMBER GOD’S **M**_____

Section: “10 **for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**”

I. Ephesians 2:12-13: “12 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ”.

II. Ephesians 1:4-6: "4 [our God and Father] **chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. **In love 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ** to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, **6 to the praise of the glory of His grace**, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved".

III & IV. Romans 9:14-18: "14 What shall we say then? There is no injustice with God, is there? May it never be! 15 For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." 16 **So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy.** 17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I raised you up, to demonstrate My power in you, and that My name might be proclaimed throughout the whole earth." 18 **So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires"**.

5. THE MARCH OF THE CHURCH: FOLLOWING CHRIST IN **E**_____ & GOOD **D**_____ FOR GOD'S **G**_____ & THE **S**_____ OF HIS PEOPLE

Section: "11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which **wage war** against the soul. 12 **Keep your behavior excellent** among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your **good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation"**. There is a spiritual war inside of us and outside of us, we must march in Christ's steps in excellence and good deeds for God's glory and the salvation of His people.

I. **Christ Is Our Example:** 1 Peter 2:21-24: "21 **For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps**, 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in his mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, **so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness [...]"**.

II. **Good Deeds Our Testimony:** James 1:26-27: "26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet **does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless.** 27 **Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world"**. Getting the priorities right: First your Family (1 Timothy 5:8), then the Church (Galatians 6:10), then the World (Galatians 6:10).

III. **God's Glory Our Ultimate End:** Matthew 5:14-16: "14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; 15 nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 **Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven"**.