

**BIG TRUTH: GOD'S CHURCH EXISTS TO MAKE HIM KNOWN**

Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 4:11-13; Colossians 1:28; Matthew 5:16; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:11-15

**BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 2:9-10**

*"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. 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."*

**BIG IDEAS**

- The church is a royal priesthood.
- The church is a holy people.
- The church exists to proclaim God's glory.

**BIBLE STORY: ACTS 4**

In the early days of the church, Peter, John, and the other disciples preached the truth of the gospel boldly, even when it meant they endangered their lives. The early church served one another and ministered to each other and others. God's church is set apart for His glory. It exists for His purposes and is made holy by Him for Him.

**THE STORY**

The Story is the good news of the gospel. All of Scripture tells the Story of God the Father's work to redeem a people from the power of sin through God the Son so that they might live for His glory through the power of the Holy Spirit. During this series we will explore the four main movements of the Story of God, and our response to the life-altering Gospel Story!

**BIG AIMS****Every student should know that:**

- God is the author, subject, and hero of the gospel story
- Salvation comes by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone

**Every student should feel:**

- Brokenness over the depth of our sin against God
- Joy in Jesus, our Savior and King

**Every student should strive to:**

- Describe the gospel message through Creation, Fall, Redemption, and New Creation
- Memorize the Bible verse each week

**Every student should want:**

- To study the Bible so that they can better understand God's story of redemption
- To share the gospel story with those who are separated from God in their sin

**STUDENT WORKOUT:**

This week we will ponder what it means to be chosen and set apart for God. We will pray for a greater understanding of what it means to be a holy priesthood and we will practice making God known in all the world.

GOD'S CHURCH EXISTS  
TO MAKE HIM KNOWN**Read and meditate on Acts 4 this week.**

- Consider how the example of the early church serves as an example for us today. How can you boldly share the gospel like the early church did? How does the truth that the redeemed are chosen by God and set apart help you live faithfully for Him? How can you serve others in your church as you seek to live out the role of royal priesthood?

**Ponder what it means to be a holy people.**

- How have you seen the Holy Spirit at work in your own life leading you toward holiness? What disciplines or actions can you take to pursue holiness daily?

**Spend time praying each day this week.**

- As you pray, ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to pursue holiness. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a greater awareness of your role in the church and to help you walk in the truth that you are chosen by God and set apart.
- Set up a time to pray with your parent or small group leader this week. As you pray, spend time asking the Holy Spirit to show you how you can serve in your church and boldly share the gospel.

**Using your Bible concordance, do a word study of the words “holy” and “priesthood.”**

- Look up the verses that use these words and write down your thoughts and insights. Write down a few of the verses to discuss with your parent or small group leader. Write down what you think it means to be a holy people and a royal priesthood.
- Set up a time to discuss your word study of the words “holy” and “priesthood” with your parent or small group leader. Discuss these words in the context of 1 Peter 2:9-10.