



A Chosen People, a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation

By Staci Geiger

What does this photo illustrate? When have you excluded someone, either on purpose or by accident?

Open with prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide you through this study of God's Word.

Consider the people you pray for in church. Are you connected to any of those people? Have you ever gone through the membership directory and listed the people you may not know? How can each of us ensure we are being welcoming to all people at church? How can we increase our connectivity to our sisters and brothers in Christ?

The photo above illustrates an idea of what it can mean to be set apart or holy. Note what the following references from the Old Testament say about what it means to be holy people of God.

Leviticus 20:26 You are to be _____ to me because I, the Lord, am _____, and I have _____ you _____ from the nations to be my _____.

Deuteronomy 7:6-9 The Lord your God has _____ you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his _____, his _____. (verse 6)

But it was because the Lord _____ you and _____ the _____ he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and _____ you from the land of _____. (verse 8)

He is the _____ God, keeping His _____ of _____ to a thousand generations of those who _____ Him and keep His commands. (verse 9b)

Deuteronomy 14:2 For you are a people _____ to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has _____ you to be his _____.

2 Samuel 7:14-15 When he does wrong, I will _____ him with the _____ of _____, with _____ inflicted by _____. But my _____ will never be taken away from him. (verse 14b)

Ezekiel 37:27-28 My _____ place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. Then the nations will know that I the Lord make _____, when my _____ is among them forever.

How have God's people reacted to His faithfulness? How are we often like the Israelites?

Ezekiel 20:5-24 _____

Jeremiah 32:30-41 _____

Psalm 4:2-3 _____

How have we come to be called the holy people of God? What common theme do these verses have?

Galatians 3:3-7, 11-14, 26-29 _____

Romans 2:28-29 _____

1 Thessalonians 1:4-7 _____

James 2:5 _____

Ephesians 1:4-5 _____

What does it mean for us to be holy people of God?

How do lives that reflect the heavenly Father's grace and faithfulness look according to these passages?

Romans 6:11–13 _____

Romans 12:1–2 _____

Romans 13:12–14 _____

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 _____

Colossians 3:1–17 _____

1 Thessalonians 4:4–5, 7–8 _____

Hebrews 12:10–11, 14–15 _____

1 Peter 2:1 _____

1 Peter 1:15–16 _____

1 Peter 4:7–11 _____

If time allows: Ephesians 5:1–21 _____

Consider the following passages. With the Holy Spirit's help, what precautions are we to follow?

1 John 2:15–17 _____

1 Peter 4:2–4 _____

James 4:4 _____

2 Corinthians 6:14–18; 7:1 _____

Look back at the picture at the beginning of this study. How has the meaning of being set apart changed for you? While we are “in the world,” it may feel like we are left out. How is that statement descriptive of your life?

What good news is ours according to 1 Peter 2:9–12?

Closing: Sing “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” (*LSB* #655; *LW* #334; *TLH* #261).

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