

Saturday & Sunday, July 7 & 8, 2018 - "Everyday Saints - Week 5 - Acceptable Sacrifice" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: 1 Peter 2:1-12, Romans 12:1, 1 Corinthians 10:31

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- 1 Peter is written to a people who are oppressed/marginalized (like Christians today) and answering the questions: How do we make an impact in a world that is increasingly hostile to followers of Jesus
- We have to remember
 - We can't do this on our own
 - Our identity (who we are in Christ) matters and affects everything we say and do
- v5 - Spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God
 - All the way back to first conflict in Genesis 4
 - God regarded Abel because of his sacrifice and did not regard Cain because of his
- It all starts with Jesus...we first have to come to Jesus
- We need to long for pure spiritual milk
 - baby Clyde Kempton
 - We will move towards God when we desire Him
- Transformation takes place: built into a house → a bunch of little temples form a dwelling place for the presence of God (the importance of GATHERING)
- We are a holy priesthood
 - Everyone who follows Jesus is a priest
 - The role of the priest is to make God known
 - Through Jesus the veil is torn and we get access into the holy of holies where only the high priest could go
- What are spiritual sacrifices?
 - **Everything**...Romans 12:1 (your very body), 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - What makes something acceptable: Who are you doing it for?
 - **Words of praise**: singing, encouragement, speaking to one another in love
 - **Generosity**: living openhandedly, with all that we have (Time, Energy, Money)
 - **Acts of Love and Justice**: If we neglect justice we also neglect love
- The bottom line is, it all comes down to Jesus
 - The Spirit of God inspiring us
 - Jesus was rejected then accepted and because of him we were rejected and now are accepted
 - We can only bring acceptable sacrifice to God through Jesus

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. When have you experienced being marginalized or oppressed because you follow Jesus? How would God call you to respond now?
2. What does it mean to you that you are a member of God's royal priesthood?
3. How have you lived out your role as a priest?
4. Which of the spiritual sacrifices do you need to grow the most in (see above)?
5. How does your identity affect everything you do? Good ways? Bad ways?
6. How is Jesus calling you to depend on him to bring impact in your situation(s)?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: 1 Corinthians 8 Tues: 1 Corinthians 9 Wed: 1 Corinthians 10 Thurs: 1 Corinthians 11 Fri: 1 Corinthians 12

Songs from the weekend: *Lion and the Lamb* - Bethel Music - *Great Are You Lord* - All Sons and Daughters - *Good Good Father* - Housefires - *No Longer Slaves* - Bethel Music - *O Praise the Name* - Hillsong Worship