



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

“The Five Duties of a Priest”

Preached by Daniel Grothe

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Summary

Have someone in your group read the following summary aloud.

Pastor Daniel teaches from Exodus 19:5-6 about God's calling for all believers to be 'a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' He emphasizes that ministry isn't just for professional clergy but for every believer. The sermon outlines five duties of a priest: living before God daily, carrying people before God in prayer, representing God's heart to others, brokering reconciliation, and announcing blessing. Through personal stories, including his relationship with a difficult neighbor named Mr. Bob, the pastor illustrates how ordinary believers can be transformative agents of God's love in their communities. He challenges the congregation to see themselves as priests called to bless their workplaces, neighborhoods, and daily interactions.

Key Passages

- ☐ Exodus 19:5-6
- ☐ Leviticus 6:14
- ☐ 1 Timothy 2:1
- ☐ Isaiah 49:6
- ☐ Psalm 96:3
- ☐ Numbers 6:24-26

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own

Heavenly Father, as we gather today to study Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to be receptive to Your Spirit's leading and to see ourselves through Your eyes. We pray that You would silence the distractions and noise of the world so we can hear Your voice clearly. Give us wisdom and understanding as we explore what it means to be Your kingdom of priests. May this time together draw us closer to You and to one another. In Jesus' name, **Amen**.

Getting Going

Allow time for each member to answer the following questions before moving on.

What's one simple act of kindness someone did for you recently that made your day better?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. What does it mean to you personally that God calls all believers to be 'a kingdom of priests' rather than just having professional clergy?
2. How can you practically 'live before God' each day, and what obstacles might prevent you from doing this consistently?
3. Who are the people God has 'etched on your heart' to pray for regularly? How has interceding for others impacted your relationship with them?
4. Share a time when someone represented God's heart to you through their actions or words. How did it affect you?
5. In what ways can you represent God's love in your workplace, neighborhood, or daily interactions?
6. What does it look like to 'broker reconciliation' in practical terms? Can you think of a situation where you could help bring healing between people or between someone and God?

7. How can you become more intentional about speaking blessing and encouragement into people's lives rather than participating in negativity or complaints?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your everyday life

This week, choose one person in your life (a neighbor, coworker, family member, or acquaintance) and commit to praying for them daily. Look for at least one practical way to represent God's love to them through a kind action, encouraging word, or act of service. Keep your eyes open for opportunities to speak blessing rather than participating in negativity.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

- Believers are called to be priests, not just professional clergy - everyone has a ministry and anointing to bless others.
- The five duties of a priest are: living before God daily, carrying people before God in prayer, representing God's heart to others, brokering reconciliation, and announcing blessing.

- God has given each believer their own unique 'congregation' or mission field in their workplace, neighborhood, and daily relationships.
- Transformation happens through consistent prayer, genuine love, and representing God's character in ordinary interactions.
- We are called to be agents of blessing and reconciliation in a broken world, looking for opportunities to speak life and bring healing wherever we go.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close your time in prayer, using the words below or your own.

Lord Jesus, thank You for calling us to be Your kingdom of priests. Help us to take this calling seriously and to see the people around us through Your eyes. Give us the discipline to meet with You daily, the compassion to pray faithfully for others, and the courage to represent Your love in our communities. Make us agents of reconciliation and blessing wherever You place us. May our lives reflect Your grace and may our words and actions draw others closer to You. We commit to being faithful priests in Your kingdom, not in our own strength, but by the power of Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name, **Amen**.