



**Riverstone**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Series- Belong

### Images of the Church

*9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 1 Peter 2:9-10*

**1. The Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)**

**2. The Bride of Christ. (Ephesians 5:22-33)**

**3. A Royal Priesthood. (1 Peter 2:9-10)**

### **A. Examining the texts.**

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. What does this passage reveal about the unity and diversity of the church? What does this passage say about the bodies' relationship to Christ?
2. Read Ephesians 5:22-33. Paul is teaching simultaneously about husbands and wives and Christ and the church. What does he say about the role of the husband and wife and how does it point toward Christ and the church?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10. What does this passage say about the identity of the church? What is its calling and function?

### **B. Meditation & application**

4. What does the body of Christ image say to you about the nature of the church and how does it speak to you about your role in it?
5. What does the mystery of Christ and the church and husband and wives have to say to you about the church? What is Christ's role and what is our role?
6. What does the image of "royal priesthood," say to you about the nature of the church? What does this image reveal to you about your role in the church and how you are to pursue?
7. How could Riverstone Baptist Church be a "closer reflection," of these three images? Turn this question into a time of prayer for our church family and perhaps with a focus on your own contribution to the church family?

Dear heavenly Father- Thank you for recognizing that you made us for community. Help us to be passionate about belonging to the church, loving the people of God and serving under the Lordship of Christ in the power of the Spirit. We pray this in Jesus Name- Amen.