

## I. What Is My Goal?

*Ephesians 5:15-17* 15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

*1 Timothy 4:15-16* 15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. 16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

## II. Who Were We?

*1 Peter 2:9-10* 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, 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.

### A. In darkness

### B. Not a people

*1 Peter 2:10* (THE MESSAGE) ...from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted...

### C. Had not received mercy

## III. Who Are We?

*1 Peter 2:9-11* 9 But you are **a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God**, 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. 11 **Dear friends**, I urge you, as **aliens and strangers** in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

### A. A chosen people

### B. A royal priesthood

### C. A holy nation

### D. A people belonging to God

### E. Dear friends (*agapetos*)

## IV. What Are We Made For?

### A. To declare the praises of God

*1 Peter 2:9* But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, **that you may declare the praises of him** who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

### B. To glorify God (*doxazo*)

*1 Peter 2:12* Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and **glorify God** on the day he visits us.

## V. How Are We to Declare the Praises of God and Glorify Him?

*1 Peter 2:9-12* 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, 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. 11 Dear friends, I urge you, as **aliens and strangers** in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 **Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds** and glorify God on the day he visits us.

### A. Fight

*1 Peter 2:2-3* 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

1. Like newborn babies
2. Crave
3. Pure spiritual milk
4. Grow

### B. Live

### C. Practical suggestions

1. Vision
2. Intercession
3. Association
4. Invitation
5. Distinction

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