

Weekly Study Guide

The week of November 4, 2012

Daily Readings

Monday	Genesis 3:8-9 Jeremiah 31:33-35	Tuesday	Exodus 20:18-21 Numbers 18:22-23	Wednesday	Hebrews chapter 7
Thursday	John 8:12 John 9:4-5 Matthew 5:14-16	Friday	1 Peter 2:1-10	Saturday	Revelation 7:9-10

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Under the Word*

Next week's readings: II Timothy 3:14-17, Matthew 7:24-29

One of the greatest teachings that came out of the Reformation was "Sola Scriptura" meaning "Only Scripture". Martin Luther drew the church to remember that all we do as God's people needs to be rooted in the word of God. We do not shape the word, but in Christ, the word shapes us.



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Group Discussion

Connect	<p>What words and images come to mind when you think of the word “priesthood”?</p> <p>Are there positive or negative associations, or some of both?</p>
Learn	<p>Read out loud together Hebrews 7:11-17 and 23-27. High priests in Jesus’ day were instrumental in the day of atonement on behalf of the sins of the people. However, as this was a position of high standing, the high priest very rarely met with the common people in the temple.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is Jesus like and unlike human high priests?• What does this tell us about Jesus’ character, and the character of God?• What ‘priestly role’ does Jesus fulfill for us?• Melchizedek was a prophet, priest, and king, who was made a priest by faith in God. Hebrews tells us that Jesus was this kind of priest: in what ways did he display these same characteristics? <p>Read together 1 Peter 2:1-10.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where in this text do you see acknowledgement of God’s authority and power?• Where do you see acknowledgement of God’s love?• What are the things the people do in this text?• What are the things that God has done or is doing? <p>In our daily lives we are called to be part of a ‘holy priesthood’. In the old Testament, priests would intercede for people in their relationship with God, bringing their offerings to him on their behalf. Their function was not to stand in the way of relationship between people and God, but to help that connection to happen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we help connect people to God in daily life? <p>Read Colossians 3:17 together. Does Luther’s two overlapping kingdoms teaching help you see yourself in this role?</p>
Apply	<p>Think about the story told in the sermon this week about the gas station cashier who framed her work in the eternal eyes of heaven as one who “brings joy and comfort the hurting”. How might you re-frame the tasks of your day to be part of your calling as a priest of the most high God, wherever you are?</p>
Pray	<p>Pray today for someone in your life who doesn’t know about the inbreaking kingdom of God into the world through Jesus. Pray that they may know that love of Jesus that has come to invite them into his kingdom life.</p>