

November 26, 2017

**Different**

*Different Call in a Dark World*

Pastor Rick Rufenacht



**Called out of \_\_\_darkness\_\_\_ in his wonderful light**

A chosen people

A Royal Priesthood

Rev 1:4-6

A Holy nation

**Called to Show the \_\_\_goodness\_\_\_ of God**

**How we suffer**

1 Peter 2: 21-23

Mt 5:10-12

**How we treat others**

1 Peter 3:8-9

Matt 5:44-48

You are going to speak at a banquet and the person introducing you needs to know three things about you. What are the three sentences that describe you?

Consider what we want to know about people we introduce. Many people in North America will describe themselves by what they do or like to do, such as student, travel, read, garden, watch football, etc

Without looking ahead to the next section, consider and identify any common areas or ways you used to answer the first two questions. What are they?

Read I Peter 2:9-10

What do these verses tell us about what God has done in our lives through Jesus?

What do these verses say to us about who we are, and how does that change our perception of ourselves? How does it change the way we live in this world?

Do you believe God cares more about who we are than what we do? Explain your answer.

Does living in the USA make a difference on how we view ourselves? Why or why not?

Read I Peter 2:12

How does who we are in Jesus influence what we do when it seems diametrically opposed to what someone not a Christian does?

How can living according to who we are in Jesus become an accusation of wrong? Can you give any recent examples?

Is it more important to you to do right or be seen as doing right? Why?

We live in a nation that was founded by rebelling against authority. Our nature is to question and be suspicious of authority.

Read I Peter 2:13-14 and Romans 13:1-6

Think about all the authorities that you have to deal with in life. How do you typically relate to them?

How difficult is it to live out these verses about authority? When is it difficult, when is it easier.

Think about different countries and the authorities over the people. In which countries would it be virtually impossible to submit to authority? In which countries would it be easy? Why does the Word of God give no distinction?

Is respecting a person in authority the same thing as submitting to them?

Read I Peter 3:9

We are called to bless those who persecute us.

Share a situation in which you have found this to be difficult. How did you ( if you did), come to the place of reacting in the goodness of God?

What needs to be transformed in us so that we can live the kind of life that treats others with the goodness of God?

What part does trust play when it comes to living a different call in the world of darkness?

What steps can we take to live out the mandates of 1 Peter?