



March 16, 2025

# Our Identity

## Scripture

- 1 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander.
- 2 Like newborn infants, desire the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow up into your salvation,
- 3 if you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- 4 As you come to him, a living stone—rejected by people but chosen and honored by God—
- 5 you yourselves, as living stones, a spiritual house, are being built to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- 6 For it stands in Scripture: See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and honored cornerstone, and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame.
- 7 So honor will come to you who believe; but for the unbelieving, The stone that the builders rejected—this one has become the cornerstone,
- 8 and a stone to stumble over, and a rock to trip over. They stumble because they disobey the word; they were destined for this.
- 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:1-10 CSB



## Additional Resources

*Explore the Bible: 1, 2 Peter & Jude; Spring 2025; [Biblegateway.com](http://Biblegateway.com); [preceptaustin.org](http://preceptaustin.org);  
[Biblehub.com/commentaries](http://Biblehub.com/commentaries); *The New American Commentary, 1 & 2 Peter, Jude*, Thomas R. Schreiner;  
*The New American Commentary, Mark*, James A. Brooks*

# Connect Church Notes

**Date**

**Speaker**

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**Key Verses**

**Key Points**

**Questions/Reflections**



# God's Word - Devoted to Him

## Royal Priests

*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,  
His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him  
who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*

*1 Peter 2:9*

If you are a Christian, you are a priest, chosen by God. As a member of the royal priesthood you have constant access to the King. If there is ever a need in your life, you don't have to find an intermediary or enlist another priest in order to gain a hearing from the King. Your position as a royal priest allows you direct access. This privilege describes your position as a priest.

However, priests also have a function. It is the responsibility of a priest to work within a priesthood. Scripture does not promote the practice of individual priests, each with a separate ministry. Rather, priests function together (Lev. 9:1). An unbiblical sense of individualism can isolate you from functioning within God's royal priesthood as He intended.

The priest represents God to the people, but he also takes the people's concerns to God. Is there someone around you who desperately needs the intercession of one of God's priests? Perhaps someone will only come to know God by seeing Him in your life. Our world hungers for an expression of Christ as He really is, living out His life through His people. It is dangerous to put our job above our calling by God. We are called to be priests first, and to hold a job second. When we get these out of order, everyone around us is denied access to the Father through us. God may have called you into a secular job as a vocation, but more importantly He has appointed you to be one of His royal priests.

From: Experiencing God Day By Day



To live at the altar is a privilege of the royal priesthood. To them, sin - terrible as it is - is no cause for despair, since they draw close again and again to the atoning Sacrifice, and their conscience is purged from their deadening acts.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon



# DAILY BIBLE STUDY

**SCRIPTURE** - Read the passage of the day

**OBSERVATION** - Write the point of the passage

**APPLICATION** - Ask yourself how this Scripture applies to your life

**PRAYER** - Ask God to help you use this Scripture

## Our Witness

Main Passage for March 23 – 1 Peter 2:11-17, 21-25 CSB

**Monday** - 1 Peter 2:11-12

**Wednesday** - 1 Peter 2:15-17

**Friday** - 1 Peter 2:23-24

**Tuesday** – 1 Peter 2:13-14

**Thursday** - 1 Peter 2:21-22

**Saturday** - 1 Peter 2:25

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:16

*Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God's slaves.*

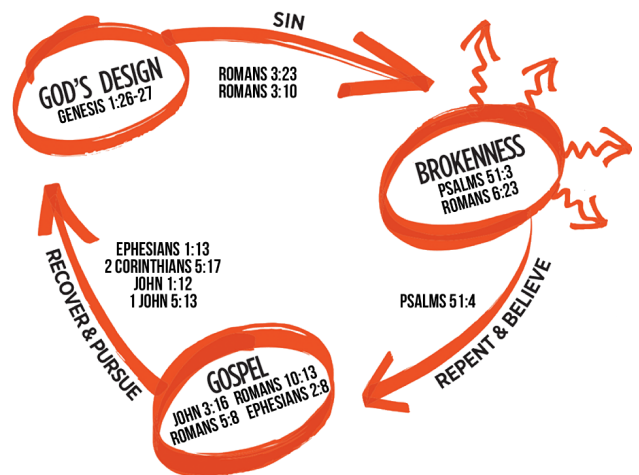
## Mission Statement

Glorifying God by connecting people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ

### Connect Church Prayer Request

YOU CANNOT SEPARATE  
THE WORD OF GOD AND PRAYER,  
FOR IN HIS WORD HE GIVES US  
THE PROMISES THAT WE CLAIM  
WHEN WE PRAY.

WARREN WIERSBC





# CONNECT CHURCH

## Attendance & Offering

On Campus & Online	692
Offering	\$ 38,308.80

## *A Final Work of the Heart*

*You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God redeemed you; therefore I command you this thing today (Deut. 15:5).*

One time when I was preaching in a very small church on the subject of giving, a friend of mine, a liberal giver, came along to support me in prayer as I preached....

At the end of the message, I said, "I want each of you to pray and ask the Lord what He wants you to give tonight." At that point, as my friend began thinking about what God might want him to give, he realized he hadn't brought his wallet or checkbook with him. To his dismay, he discovered that he had nothing at all to give in the offering.

He prayed, *Lord, what can I give? I don't have any money with me!*

Immediately, the Lord reminded him that he had on a brand new pair of very expensive shoes. The Lord said, *I want you to give those shoes to the pastor of the church.*

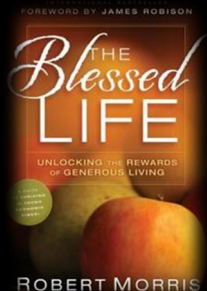
The pastor of that little church would probably have never purchased such a nice pair of shoes for himself, even if he could have afforded them, which he probably could not.

At that point, my friend began going through all those mental gymnastics one goes through when God asks you to do something unusual. *What if they're not the right size? Will he be offended? What will people think? Am I just going to walk out of here in my socks?*

Finally he made a decision, *The Lord has spoken to me, so I'm going to do it whether or not it makes sense.*

He went over to the pastor's wife and asked, "What size shoes does your husband wear?" It was the very same size he was wearing. Needless to say, my friend rode home with me in his stocking feet. But he was blessed and full of joy - and so was that pastor.

*To be continued...  
From The Blessed Life*



*Online Giving*  
CAMERA CAPTURE

SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE

*Text to*  
**Tithe**

Simple  
Quick  
Secure



**561.705.0539**

# *Offering*

God's nature is to replenish the stores of those who strive to be faithful conduits for his kingdom work.





# CONNECT CHURCH



## CONNECTION GROUPS

### SUNDAY

**Parents of Young Children** - 9:00 AM - Marlon Francis: m4francis@gmail.com  
**Students** - 9:00 AM - Tristan Nelson: tristan@cc.today  
**Young Adults** - 9:00 AM - Tristan Nelson: tristan@cc.today  
**Families** - 9:00 AM - Sam Jay: jays717@bellsouth.net  
**Adults** - 10:30 AM - Clayton Hutcheson: claybmw@bellsouth.net

### MONDAY

**Men** - 7:00 PM - Edgar Gregory: egregoriac@gmail.com

### TUESDAY

**Ladies** - 9:30 AM - Tryna Groat: atgroat619@hotmail.com  
**Adults** - 6:30 PM - Richard Cooper: richruth142@yahoo.com  
**Men** - 7:00 PM - Chip Hausman: jwmhausman@gmail.com

## CONNECTION GROUPS

### WEDNESDAY

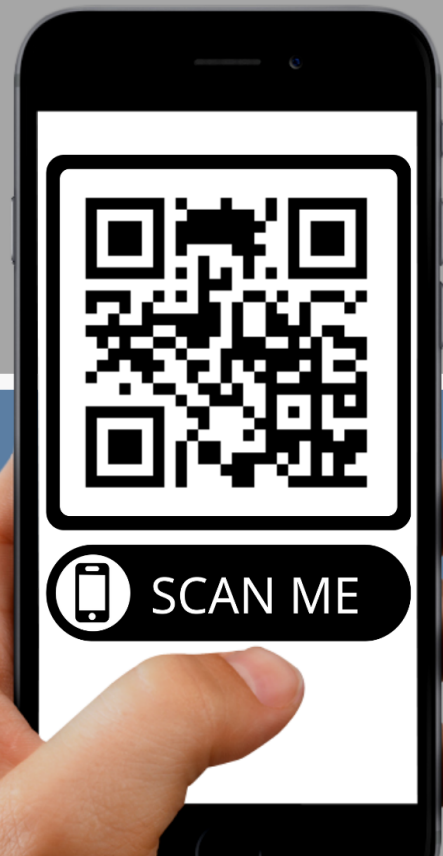
**MOPS** - 9:00 AM - Michele Williams: drbmw37@gmail.com  
**Adults** - 10:15 AM - Greg Maffet: gjmaffet@hotmail.com  
**Students** - 6:30 PM - Tristan Nelson: tristan@cc.today  
**Adults** - 7:00 PM - Dale Faircloth: dale@cc.today  
**Adults** - 7:00 PM - Victor Manoharan: woodhavenanimalclinic@gmail.com  
**Worship Team** - 7:00 PM - Duval Madrigal: duval.madrigal@cc.today  
**Ladies** - 7:00 PM - J.Virginia Murray: jvirginiam@gmail.com  
**Adults** - 7:00 PM - Sam Burton: skburton@bellsouth.net  
**Adults** - 7:00 PM - Mike Eleveld: mike@cc.today  
**Ladies** - 7:00 PM - Molly Maharaj: merrymolly@rocketmail.com

### THURSDAY

**Adults** - 7:00 PM - Leslie Dakers: ladakes@hotmail.com  
**Retirees/Empty Nesters** - 7:00 PM - Ed Samour: ed@ecengineers.com

*Connect Card*  
**CAMERA CAPTURE**

SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE





# CONNECT CHURCH

*Join Us for Refreshments on the Patio Today!*



*Stay and Visit Following the Service!*

**Theological Connection**  
*March 17th*

**Awana - Pinata Night**  
*March 19th*

**Senior Adult - Golden Corral**  
*March 21st*

**Awana - Ketchup & Ice Cream Night**  
*March 26th*

**CT - March Madness**  
*March 26th*

*Scan to Visit  
Connect Church  
Event Page*



# Theological Connection

Christian Education for Everyone

**March 17th - 7:00 PM**  
**Activity Center**



More info.- [gjmaffet@hotmail.com](mailto:gjmaffet@hotmail.com)



# CONNECT CHURCH



## Pinata Night

March 19th - 6:30



Fun Times - Breaking a Pinata



## Senior Adult Outing

Fellowship / Laughter / Food  
March 21st - 1:00 PM

Golden Corral



Cost is Per Person - Price of Your Meal  
For more info. - [swiftbmw@me.com](mailto:swiftbmw@me.com)



# CONNECT CHURCH



MARCH 26TH - 6:30 PM

## March Madness Game Night



March 26th  
6:30 PM  
Activity Center

Basketball, Volleyball,  
Super Smash Bros  
& Spike Ball

For more info. - [tristan.nelson@cc.today](mailto:tristan.nelson@cc.today)



# CONNECT CHURCH



## Baptism Class

3rd - 8th Grade

Students & Their Parents

March 30th, April 6th, April 13th

**9:00 AM - 10:15 AM**

**Children's Department**

Register - [cc.today](http://cc.today)

For more info. - [stacy.gatlin@cc.today](mailto:stacy.gatlin@cc.today)



Connect Teens

# PASSION CAMP '25

JULY 14TH - 18TH | \$485

**Registration: [cc.today](http://cc.today)**

Additional Info. - [tristan.nelson@cc.today](mailto:tristan.nelson@cc.today)







# Leadership Team



Dr. Dale R. Faircloth  
Elder and Lead Pastor  
dale@cc.today



Marlon Francis  
Elder



Clayton Hutcheson  
Elder



Rajiv Khatri  
Elder



Victor Manoharan  
Elder



Fred Rogers  
Elder



Duval Madrigal  
Assistant Pastor  
duval@cc.today



Mike Eleveld  
Assistant Pastor  
mike@cc.today



Tristan Nelson  
Student Pastor  
tristan@cc.today



Stacy Gatlin  
Kids Ministry Director  
stacy@cc.today



Misael Valera  
Worship Leader

## Connect Church

10701 Okeechobee Boulevard  
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411  
561.793.2475  
cc.today



# SBC

**CC GUEST NETWORK**  
**FREE WIFI AVAILABLE**  
 PASSWORD: #Getconnected!