



Sunday November 14, 2021
Honored To Serve

Hebrews 5:1-10

1 For every high priest **TAKEN** from among men is **APPOINTED** for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

2 He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness.

3 Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins.

4 And no man takes this **HONOR** to himself, but he who is **CALLED** by God, just as Aaron was.

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are my Son, today I have begotten You."

6 As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek";

7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,

8 though He was a Son, yet He **LEARNED** obedience by the things which He suffered.

9 And having been **PERFECTED**, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

10 **CALLED** by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek,"

We understand that this passage is talking about the Aaronic Priesthood in the Old Testament and the priesthood of Jesus, Jesus as High Priest. Under the Old Testament, there was the high priest and then under him were those who served as priests in the Tabernacle and the Temple. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ is our High Priest and all of us as believers are priests under our High Priest.

Revelation 1:5-6

5...To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

6 and has **made us kings and priests to His God and Father**, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

(See also 1 Peter 2:5,9; Revelation 5:10; 20:6)

In this passage in Hebrews 5:1-10 we learn how God dealt with Jesus the High Priest, while contrasting Him with Aaron. This passage specifically deals with the earthly life of Jesus when the Eternal Word had become the Incarnate Word. He walked on the earth



as a Man under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. He was Deity in origin and nature, but had laid aside His powers of omnipotence, omnipresence and omniscience and walked on the earth as a Man, empowered by the Spirit. He lived, as you and I are called to live as born-again sons and daughters of God. And as He made this journey through earth, this passage in Hebrews describes how God prepared Him to be our Great High Priest, which He now fulfills as the exalted, glorified Christ, Deity with eternal glory, at the right hand of the Father.

Our premise is that if God the Father dealt with Jesus in this manner, in His earthly life to prepare Him for His heavenly priesthood, then we can expect God to work with us in a similar manner to prepare us for our roles as priests unto God (Revelation 5:10; 20:6)

So, we desire to explore this passage in Hebrews 5:1-10 from the perspective of being priests unto God.

HONORED

Hebrews 5:4

And no man takes this **HONOR** to himself, but he who is **CALLED** by God, just as Aaron was.

The word 'honor' stands out. We have been honored by God to be priests unto our God. This is a place of honor. No man can take this honor to himself. This place of honor is given to us by God because of what Jesus Christ has done for us.

Think about someone in the armed forces: army, navy, or the air force. It is an honor to be in that uniform and represent the country. It is an honor to serve. While the opportunity is available to any citizen, no citizen can take this honor to himself without properly qualifying and going through the process.

Think about certain professions, e.g. a doctor. It is an honor to serve as a doctor. It is an honor to wear the white coat and place the stethoscope around their neck. However, only those who have qualified and gone through the process can enjoy this honor.

We are priests. God has clothed us with righteousness and given us full access into the presence of God.

We have a place of honor.

As believers God has honored us to serve as priests in the Kingdom.

It is an honor to serve.



We must not take this lightly and neglect this place of honor. We must consider it an honor to serve as priests of the Most-High God.

OUR PRIESTLY ROLE IN BRIEF

As priests we bring the needs of the people to God.

We bring the counsel (teaching, word) of God to people.

None of us are too young or too old to fulfill this role as priests to God.

We must consider it an honor to serve as priests of the Most-High God.

Take your family, other believers, friends, cities, nations before God.

Let God work through you and give you the opportunity to bring God's counsel to people in your sphere of influence.

We are HONORED TO SERVE as priests of God.

THE OTHER SIDE

However, there is the other side to being in this place of honor.

Think about the ranks in the Indian Army. One starts in the lowest rank as a Cadet Officer, and then progresses slowly up the ranks, Lieutenant, Captain....

Officer Cadet → Lieutenant → Captain → Major → Lieutenant Colonel → Colonel → Brigadier → Major General → Lieutenant General → General.

While at the lowest level, the Cadet Office is honored to serve the country, just as the General, there is a process one goes through to mature and go up the ranks to becoming a General. Both have the same honor to serve the country, but they are at different levels in training, maturity, responsibility, rank, and influence.

Similarly, God has a process He takes His priests through. This is the same process that Jesus, our High Priest went through. This process applies to all of us His priests. We wish to focus on this process.

THE PREPARATION PROCESS

Now, let's look at each step in this process. We will spend quite some time on the last two steps because we wish to emphasize these two.



Important Thought: The preparation process we are going to learn about not only applies to our role as priests of the Most-High God, but to all aspects of serving the Lord. In whatever area, role, ministry or work you are honored to serve God, it will be useful to **understand how God works IN us so that He can work THROUGH us**. Understanding this process is important.

Here is what we see in this passage:

- 1, CHOSEN – SELECTED BY GOD
- 2, CALLED – INVITED BY GOD
- 3, APPOINTED – ASSIGNED BY GOD
- 4, TRAINED – EQUIPPED BY GOD
- 5, MATURED – PERFECTED BY GOD

Let's look at each closely:

1, CHOSEN – SELECTED BY GOD

5:1 For every high priest taken from among men....
taken, chosen, selected

Each of us has been chosen, selected from among all the people in this world, by God. God's choosing (or selecting) of us does not imply partial, preferential treatment or favoritism. As we know, the opportunity (or invitation) is available for ALL and EVERYONE. But we are now the chosen ones having responded to the call of God.

However, we live with the awareness or recognition of God's choosing on our lives. We are chosen, handpicked, selected, taken from among people, by God. Therefore, God has His special eye on us.

Being a chosen one implies there is a differentiator between us and the others in the world. This differentiator is in the kind of life we live and responsibility we carry. We've been taken out, set apart by God to be honored to serve Him, as priests unto God, and with the other graces, gifts and ministries He has given to us.

John 15:16

Choosing also has to do with God's foreknowledge. He foreknew, or knew before hand, that you would be one of those who would say 'yes' to His call, and so He marked you out.



2, CALLED – INVITED BY GOD

5:4 And no man takes this HONOR to himself, but he who is CALLED by God, just as Aaron was.

5:10 CALLED by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek,"

There are two different Greek words used in vs 4 and vs 10, both translated called.

Vs 4: called as in being invited

Vs 10: called as in to be designated, to declared to be, to be addressed as, to salute or to be recognized as, to be named or given a name in public. You can imagine it like this. Once a Cadet Office has gone through the training process successfully, she/he is then called Lieutenant. Then when the Lieutenant has gone through the next level of the training process successfully, she/he is called (designated as, declared to be, addressed as, recognized as) a Captain, and so on.

God's call is an invitation. We have said 'yes' to the call and accepted His invitation to be His and accepted the honor to serve Him.

It is also an invitation to a preparation process, that He will take us through to make us equipped to serve Him. And once we have journeyed through the process, just as Jesus did, He then "calls" us or declares us to have become what He was preparing us for.

Jesus journeyed through the process (5:5-9) and was then "called" or designated by God or declared by God to be a High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

God called us.

This call was not only to enter this honor of serving Him, but also to enter this preparation process where He could then declare us prepared for the role.

We have said yes to this call.

3, APPOINTED – ASSIGNED BY GOD

5:1 For every high priest TAKEN from among men is APPOINTED for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

appointed means to ordain, to set in a place, to put in charge of a thing, to appoint one to administer an office.



We have been appointed by God and given an assignment by God.
This assignment is to serve people (...appointed for men...)

As stated earlier, as priests we have been appointed for people in things pertaining to God – to bring people before God and to bring God to people.

In whatever assignment God has given to you, see it as an assignment “...in things pertaining to God...”. **There is a God-connection in your assignment.** In whatever assignment you are doing God wants to connect to people through you and wants you to connect people to Him.

Look at your appointment, your assignment as an opportunity given to you by God, where you are honored to serve the Most-High God. You have been honored to serve God by the assignment He has given to you.

Your assignment (appointment) requires you to be faithful, excellent, and diligent. You do it with a sense of honor, for God and His glory.

4, TRAINED – EQUIPPED BY GOD

5:8 though He was a Son, yet He **LEARNED obedience by the things which He suffered.**

learned = to increase one’s knowledge, to learn by experience, to learn by use and practice

In order to be a merciful and faithful High Priest (Hebrews 2:17); to be a High Priest who could be touched with our weaknesses (Hebrews 5:16); to be a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens (Hebrews 7:26), He had to gain knowledge and experience of what it was to be human, be tempted, suffer and endure the very things we endure. This was tough training.

What humility! what compassion! what love! The One who is Deity, would be clothed in humanity, in order to know and experience what it is to be human, so that He could be honored to serve as our Great High Priest in the eternal heavens!

This was suffering He took on willingly.



Part of our training and equipping has to do with us stepping into the life situations of other's, to know and experience what they are going through, so that we can represent them before God and bring God to them.

God trains us through His Word, through His Spirit, through our interactions with other believers and through life's experiences.

5, MATURED – PERFECTED BY GOD

5:9 And having been PERFECTED, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

Perfected (Greek 'teleioo') = to add what is yet wanting in order to render a thing full.

This refers to the completion of the process of training, and "the bringing of a person or thing to the goal fixed by God" (Vincent's Word Studies).

The training, equipping, learning process that God takes us through, in this call He has given to each of us, is intended to bring us to the place where we are "perfected", made complete, full, lacking nothing, to fulfill our assignment.

It is important that we stay the course and not skip parts of the training, or jump in and out of the training.

Luke 6:40

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

"perfectly trained" (Greek 'katartizo') = to render fit or complete, thoroughly prepared.

The ultimate goal of God's training, equipping, maturing and perfecting process is for us to be like our Great High Priest – Jesus Christ.

SUMMARY

We have been honored to serve God and people.

We must understand the process and journey with God through the process.

Chosen – selected by God



Called – invited by God
Appointed – assigned by God
Trained – equipped by God
Matured – perfected by God

SALVATION CALL

If you ask, does God love me? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 3:16, Romans 5:8

If you ask, how can I have my sins forgiven? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 10:43; 1 John 2:2,12

If you ask, what is the way to God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 14:6

If you ask, how can I become a child of God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 1:12

If you ask, where can I find salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 4:12

If you ask, what must I do to experience salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 16:30-31

As an act of your own free choice, we invite you to make this decision to follow Jesus.

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday November 14, 2021
Honored To Serve

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Hebrews 5:1-10*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, Discuss what you understand by being made a priest unto God?

2, Review the five parts of the process that Jesus went through, and which we need to go through, in being honored to serve our God. Which of these speaks to you and why?

Chosen – selected by God

Called – invited by God

Appointed – assigned by God



*Trained – equipped by God
Matured – perfected by God*

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.




USEFUL RESOURCES


Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

KEYWORDS

Honored to serve, royal priesthood, kings and priests, priest unto our God, High Priest, preparation process, chosen, called, appointed, anointed, training, equipping, maturing