

Sermon Notes:

Jesus Is Our Faithful High Priest

I Samuel 2:12-7:17

Kids, draw a picture of the tabernacle—like a beautiful tent where God dwelt with Israel.

Put your name here: _____



LOUISVILLE
EVANGELICAL
Free Church

Helping People Follow Jesus Together

Our Core Values:

Graciousness. Following Jesus is a journey in humility and grace. We want to humbly depend upon God's grace and humbly extend God's grace to others.

Togetherness. Following Jesus is not a solo journey. By following Jesus together, our differences help us follow him better.

Engagement. Following Jesus is a journey of prayerful, intentional community engagement. What matters most is people following Jesus and people learn to follow Jesus through relationships.

Reproducing. Following Jesus is a journey of reproducing gospel communities. We want to see this reproduction happen at every level – from life groups to starting other churches.

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany; February 19, 2017

Welcome to our church. If you have children, please pick up a writing board for them and a bulletin so they can draw during the message (there's an idea on the back of the bulletin for their participation). Our service will be about an hour long. We value being together, so our children stay with us during the service.

If you need to leave the main room with a child, you are welcome to go to the east room for some privacy.

We don't "pass the plate" here at LEFC. If you want to give towards the ministry of this church, there is an offering box on the welcome table.

Pastor Tom Starkjohn. Contact info: Cell # 402.297.0672.

Do you get the LEFC Weekly email? This is for regular attenders and it's the way to keep up with our church. Send an email to Pastor Tom at tomstarkjohn@gmail.com and say "sign me up for that email".

The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.
Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire,
around him a mighty tempest.

He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
"Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"
The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge!

Psalms 50:1-6

**Sing a song of praise to God:
How Great Thou Art, Hymn #32**

**Historical Confession of Faith: EFCA
Statement #3 The Human Condition**

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

**A Song reminding us of the Gospel:
Before The Throne of God Above**

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

A Story of a Life Changed by the Gospel

A Scripture Memory Song

Teaching from the Word: 1 Samuel 2:12-7:17, second message.

Taking the Lord's Supper Together.

A Song of Response: *Just As I am..* Hymn #260.

This week I've put together an abbreviated version of our Life Group notes. Each week groups gather to discuss our four Life-giving practices, which is briefly outlined below:

Life-giving Prayer. How have you remembered to worship God in the everyday stuff of life this week? Spend some time practicing giving God glory, honor, and thanks together. Use the outline below if you need reminders on what this means:

Glory: God, it's amazing that you _____.

Honor: God, I choose (or want or surrender) _____ to you.

Thanks: God, thank you for _____.

Life-giving Truth: Each week we think through the truth and the passage from the teaching on Sunday. We want to have these truths change our thinking so that we believe and practice what we know.

1. What was one thing that you had a question or concern from the teaching on Sunday?
2. Did you read 1 Samuel 2:12-7:17? Was there anything that you noticed?
3. Have you read the Old Testament accounts of the tabernacle, priests, laws, and sacrifices (it's in Exodus-Deuteronomy)? Does it seem relevant or interesting to you? What do you think is the value of even studying it?
4. Rebeka is new to learning about Christianity. She said, "I don't get why Christians say someone has to believe and do certain things to have a relationship with God. I mean, it's fine if you want to do them, but I don't see why everyone has to do them. Can't everyone come to God in her own way?" How might the Old Testament's teaching on tabernacle, sacrifices, priests, and laws help her understand the "narrow" way of relating to God? How might a lack of understanding about the Old Testament lead to misinformation about how we relate to God?
5. Our culture believes that we can approach God (whoever we conceive of him to be) in any way we want. Yet the truth that Jesus is our High Priest says exactly the opposite. As you consider your life, do you see ways that the culture has influenced your thinking so that you don't rightly value the High Priesthood of Jesus and instead try to approach God in more generic ways?
6. What are some ways we could give Jesus glory, honor, and thanks for his work as our Faithful High Priest?
7. Our Statement of Faith, article 4, says that Jesus "ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate." What truths would we be missing about Jesus if instead it only read, "Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father as our Teacher and Advocate"?

Life-giving Relationships. This is when we pray for each other. The focus of this time is to ask for prayer for us, personally, and not other people or circumstances. So, what is going on inside your heart? What might God be teaching you? How can we pray for you?

Life-giving Impact. We want to be Kingdom Laborers (Matthew 9:37). First, do you have any stories about how you interacted with people on your Pray & Watch list this week?

Spend some time together praying for your friends and neighbors.