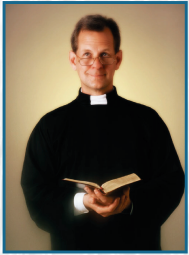


The Role of a Priest

Most churches have a leader who stands for them before God. This person is often known as a priest. Generally, it is his duties to represent the people before God and offer prayers for them. He also instructs the people about religious things. And of course, the priest is considered to be holier and more enlightened than everyone else.



Well, maybe you will be surprised to learn that the Bible says that every believer is a priest. This is every believer, not just a few. Each one of us is called to stand before the presence of the Lord, offering up prayers and then represent God to the people.

Now where did these churches get their ideas about priests? It comes from the Old Testament. You see before Jesus came, God did have a

priesthood that was responsible for the rituals and prayers. They would also instruct the people in the ways of God. But things changed after Jesus came. Consider what the following passages say in 1 Peter 2:5 & 9:

"Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But ye are a elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for [God's] own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light,"
American Standard Version

Me, a Priest?!

So now, God considers every believer a priest. And as a priest you do have a special role and privileges. Probably most importantly, you have special access to God! Note that the Scripture you just read says that you are a "royal priesthood!" You have the same right and privilege to come into God's presence as anyone else.



There is no spiritual hierarchy in God's eyes! Now that is not to say that God does not call some to take leadership in the body of Christ. He does - about which we will study later. However, God considers each one of us as a priest, and as a priest, you have the right and privilege of approaching Him - without fear and in fact, full of confidence.



So know that when you pray, God considers you special and is ready to receive and hear you.

He will use you!

And just as the priests of old had a special role to fulfill, you do also! First of all, we too are called to represent the people and their needs before God. And it is really cool how the Lord does this! As you are praying and worshipping Him, you will notice that people and their needs come to your attention. Do not dismiss these! This is the Holy

He reveals things to us

Spirit leading you to pray on behalf of His people. God is bringing them to your attention because He wants you to help them and serve them by praying for them. So do this with the understanding that God gives you.

As you grow in this role, you will find that God leads you more and more in your prayers. God will give you specific focuses for your prayers, in areas that He is working. Being a priest before God is a real privilege!



Next, you will not only find direction for your prayers, you will also discover that God will reveal things to you. Now it gets really interesting! Maybe He will give you insight about a problem someone has. Maybe He will give you something from His Word that He wants you to share with someone. Perhaps you will receive an

impression to do something.

Remember, prayer is a two way street and God will talk with you and reveal things to you.

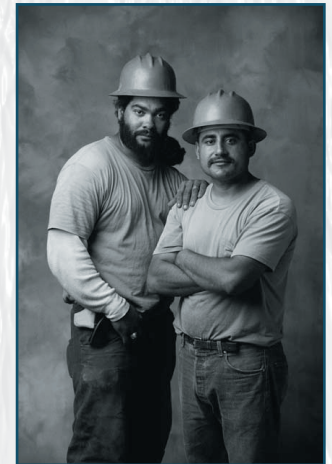
How do you know what you received is really from God? Well, you should first prove what you received with the Word of God. The Bible says that we should prove all things. Make sure that it is not contrary to the Word of God. Secondly, ask your spiritual friend what they think. It is always good to ask for the advise of a godly person. Finally, ask God for wisdom about what you should do with what He showed you. Maybe for now, you should just pray. As you grow in the things of God, you will grow in wisdom and understanding about these things.

Access to God, serving others through prayer and receiving revelation from God: all of these privileges are yours because you are a priest! There is nothing like having a relationship with a living God! We will pray for you, that you will grow in your new role!

www.Faith-without-Walls.com

© 2012 Robert Arnold

You are a Priest!



Sponsored by

Faith without Walls