153 Mount Edward Road
Charlottetown, PE C1A 5T1
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Churchy Words 4: Priest

Sunday, October 11, 2026

KEY PASSAGES

1 Peter 2:9-12 (NIV)

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

FIVE KEY POINTS

1. **Nobody at CRC goes by the title priest.** There is a pastor, elders, deacons and a ministry associate, but no one the church points to as its priest, even though the role was central to how Israel followed God.
2. **Old Testament priests had four jobs.** They helped bring atonement for sins, discerned what was holy, taught the people, and made way for God's glory, which he described as God's presence showing up in a physical way.
3. **John lived out his calling by pointing to Jesus.** His father would have expected a priest like the ones in Leviticus, with sacrifices and temple duties. John called people to repent and said, behold the Lamb of God.
4. **Jesus is the only high priest we will ever need.** Israel's high priest was replaced late in life or at death. Jesus rose and is alive, and Hebrews 4 says he can empathize with our weaknesses.
5. **Every believer is part of the royal priesthood.** 1 Peter was written to scattered exiles, so the four jobs are ours now: telling a hurting world it can be forgiven, discerning what is holy through the Spirit, teaching, and showing God's presence through service and kindness.

STORIES & ILLUSTRATIONS

The squash match. Over the summer, the man he was playing squash against told him about the drive over. He had warned his teenage daughter he would need to watch his language against a pastor, and she dryly asked whether he couldn't just absolve his sins. The best her dad came up with was that he's a pastor, not a priest. He enjoyed the story and said nothing.

What Zechariah was praying for. He said he had always read the angel's promise about John as the surprising part. Studying it this week, he realized a priest like Zechariah would have been praying for a son to carry on that role, and only his age made it hard to believe.

Volunteering as a priest. He admitted nobody meeting someone new is likely to describe their job and then add that they also volunteer as a priest. The word carries a lot, but it matters, and God will use each of us in the ways he has blessed and called us.

Listen to the sermon again on Spotify · **Re-watch the sermon on YouTube**

902-894-4721 · info@charlottetowncrc.org · charlottetowncrc.org

Created by Levi Ewald