



## FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: *Dennis & Diane Gordon*

### THE TABERNACLE #5 JESUS IN ME, A HOLY PRIESTHOOD

Exodus chapter 28; Exodus 29:4-9



#### GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

**GOD FILLS ME & COVERS ME TO MAKE ME STRONG  
TO MINISTER IN HIS TEMPLE ALL THE DAY LONG**

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:** *Repeat 2x with Congregation*

#### 1 Peter 2:5

*"...but chosen by God and precious, you also as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."*

**INTRODUCTION:** We learn from the picture of the Tabernacle that God's plan for salvation has a pattern: When we confess our sins, Jesus saves us by His blood shed for our redemption. When we wash in the water of His word He is reflected in us. When we keep sin trimmed away the light of His Spirit burns brightly so we can shine with His glory and stand tall as a church bound together in Him, with the weakness of our humanity covered in His glory like the gold covering the boards of the Tabernacle. Jesus makes us to be priests whose prayers rise up to Him as a sweet-smelling fragrance!

#### **ORDER OF SERVICE:**

1. Light Candles & Pray
2. Children's Songs/Story
3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring
4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song'
5. Adult Fellowship Break
6. Worship Song Set
7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer
8. Blessing Songs & Benediction

**OBJECTS TO BRING:** Action Figure Priest with Priest clothed in Robes and Ephod

## **2. CHILDREN'S STORY: Dan's New Job**

Dan had to move far away and leave all his friends behind. He had been the best pitcher and heard that his winning baseball team had lost 1<sup>st</sup> place because he was gone, he worried about not having any friends at his new school, the car broke down, Mom was feeling depressed away from her friends, then the dog ran off, and Dan worried that Skip could not find his way back to the new house!

School started, but Dan was too sad to make new friends. Walking home from school, Dan remembered that he was so sad after they moved that he had forgotten to pray! So Dan prayed, and he felt the Lord Jesus telling him in his heart that He had a job for him to do. It was Dan's new job to lift up all his troubles to Jesus every day, and Jesus promised to answer! So Dan wrote the name of every person who came to mind on a piece of paper, put them in his pocket next to his heart; and he was faithful to pray for them every morning and night. Dan prayed for his old friends, for his team, for new friends, for their car, for a new church, for his mom to be happy, for the car, and for his dog Skip to come home.

On Dan's way home from school the next week, he saw a boy playing in his yard and stopped to say, "Hi, great dog! I used to have a dog like that but my dog had long hair." The boy said, "Hey, maybe he is your dog, we just found him and gave him a haircut!" Just then Skip looked up, wagged his tail and ran to give Dan a dog kiss! "Skip? Skip!!" exclaimed Dan. The boy said, "He sure is your dog, my name is Sammy." And Sammy soon became Dan's very best friend! When Dan got home, there was a lady talking to his mom. "Hi Dan," she said happily, "This is our neighbor, Mrs. Gray. Shall we all go to 'Family Fun Night' at their church?" Dan smiled, "Sounds like fun, sure!" Mom continued, "And, Mr. Gray is fixing our car!" Derek couldn't wait to thank the Lord for answering his prayers, and he knew everything would be all right, because Jesus is always faithful to answer our prayers!



### **3.THE TABERNACLE WAS BEAUTIFUL, BUT IT HAD NO PURPOSE WITHOUT A PRIEST TO MINISTER FOR GOD.**

*Exodus 25:8 “And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.”*



God desired to live with His people and gave them the Tabernacle where He came to dwell; God designed every detail of the Tabernacle for the purpose of ministering salvation to His people, that they might come to Him, and know Him, and be saved.

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup> Ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”*

God’s word says that your body is a temple, the Tabernacle where His Spirit lives; Jesus designed you with great purpose for your life.

*Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”*

The details embroidered upon the clothing of those who ministered in the Tabernacle, have a deeper fulfillment, to be woven into the hearts of all God’s people who minister for Jesus in His temple.

*Exodus 29:4-9 “And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shalt wash them with water. <sup>5</sup> And thou shalt take the garments, and put upon Aaron the coat, and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the curious girdle of the ephod: <sup>6</sup> and thou shalt put the mitre upon his head, and put the holy crown upon the mitre. <sup>7</sup> Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him. <sup>8</sup> And thou shalt bring his sons, and put coats upon them. <sup>9</sup> And thou shalt gird them with girdles, Aaron and his sons, and put the bonnets on them: and the priest’s office shall be theirs for a perpetual statute: and thou shalt consecrate Aaron and his sons.”*

#### 4. GOD HAS CHOSEN US BY FAITH IN HIS NAME.

In times past God chose Aaron and his sons to minister for Him in the Tabernacle, but **today all who trust in Jesus are chosen by God to be priests, as God's representatives on earth** to minister for Him in His Tabernacle, your body, the temple of God's Spirit.



*1 Peter 2: 9-10 “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: <sup>10</sup>which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”*

The priest kept himself cleansed and holy before God because with his hands he offered sacrifices to pay the price of sin, and with his mouth, he carried the people in prayer to God, which is still the purpose of ministry today. We are to have the same mind in us which was also in Christ, our high priest in Heaven.



*Philippians 2:5-6 “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”*

Yes, because He loves you so much, **God came from Heaven to shed His own blood on the cross for our sins**. Why would He do that? The wages of sin is death, because no sin can stand in the presence of God, so God sent His word, the breath of His mouth, to become a man so that He could pay the price for your sins Himself.

*Psalms 33:6 “By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.”*

## 5. JESUS ASKS US TO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE OF LIVING TO LOVE & INTERCEDE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

Jesus calls us to come meet with Him, to find mercy and peace as we commune with Him where He speaks to every heart who trusts in Him because He loves you so. We minister for Jesus lifting prayers in the holy place, then we meet with Him at his mercy seat, to commune with Him intimately, face to face, between the wings of the angels.



Hebrews 7:22-25 “By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. <sup>23</sup> They truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: <sup>24</sup> but this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. <sup>25</sup> Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”



Jesus lives to pray for you and for me, ever-interceding for you like the priest prayed for the people in the Temple, and because He as our high priest forever lives in His people, He calls you to be His priest on earth, ever-ministering and interceding for one another. And when you have ministered for others offering sacrifices of prayers for them, so sweet to the Lord, then He calls you to come, come commune with Him between the wings of the cherubim!



Numbers 7:89 “And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: he spake unto him.”

Revelation 3:20 “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

## **6. GOD CLOTHES US IN THE RIGHTEOUS ROBES OF HIS PRIESTHOOD, THAT ARE SYMBOLIC OF HIS HOLINESS.**



*Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.”*

When Jesus lives in your heart, He dresses you in His own righteousness and anoints you with His Holy Spirit when you believe, just as He promised, to set you apart to do His special work.

*Joel 2:28-29 “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:<sup>29</sup> And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.”*

*Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”*

*Luke 24:49 “And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”*

Moses consecrated the priests by bathing and dressing them in special clothing. Then anointed them with oil to set them apart for the special work of serving God. **Anointing is not magical** as we hear sometimes that “He has the anointing!” **Anointing simply means** that oil was poured as a symbol of **God’s Spirit poured out upon all who trust in Him**, setting them apart for God’s service.

*Exodus 19:5 “Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, than ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is mine. And ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation...”*

## **7. THE ROBES OF THE PRIEST SHOW US HOW WE CAN BE A BEAUTIFUL SHINING TABERNACLE FOR GOD!**

Does your heart shine for Jesus like this beautiful golden Tabernacle? Jesus paid a great price with His own precious blood, to save you and make you clean and holy. It is a great responsibility as the keeper of His Temple, to glorify Him in these bodies that He paid such a great price to redeem. The clothing of the priest shows us how we are to consecrate ourselves, with first of all, salvation.

### **White Linen Breaches and White Robe**

After washing, Moses dressed Aaron and his sons in white linen breaches to cover their nakedness and gave them each a long white robe to wear representing the righteousness of God our Savior. **The Mitre** was a white linen cap, mitered or angled to a point on top, the symbol that our salvation comes only from God. The Mitre cap reminds us that every believer is given a cap to wear – it is the helmet of salvation! When you put on the helmet of salvation, you can know that Jesus will protect your mind against false doctrine, and all power of the enemy.



**The Gold Crown** was a gold band circling the head and tied in the back with a blue cord, **inscribed with ‘Holiness to the Lord’**.

**Revelation 22:4** “*And they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads.*”

Jesus gives you a new name inscribed in your forehead! You cannot see it but it is there, **setting you apart as holy unto the Lord!**

**Blue Robe of the Ephod** The blue robe worn over the white robe was blue, standing for purity. Our Lord Jesus wants you to always be pure in all your ways. When you ask Him, Jesus will help you by the power of His Holy Spirit to be pure in thought and deed.

**The Ephod** was a breastplate worn over the heart of the priest, with a precious stone, each stone representing a tribe of God’s people.

## **8. WE ARE CALLED AS PRIESTS TO BE HOLY to the LORD**

Jesus tells us to put on these garments representing the whole armor of God, all held together by the belt (girdle) of truth. Telling the truth always, will hold our hearts and our lives together very well!



*Ephesians 6:13-17 “Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;*

*<sup>15</sup> and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”*

Jesus gives us the Ephod to pray for one another. This breastplate of righteousness is a protection for ourselves and to those for whom we pray. It is His righteousness and not our own that saves us from all power of the evil one. But the breastplate of righteousness also carries a great responsibility. The Ephod had 12 jewels mounted in it, each one representing one of the 12 tribes of Israel, all precious to God. As a priest for Him, Jesus wants us to wear upon our own heart the needs of others and present their needs daily before Him.

**The Shoulder Stones** were of black onyx stone. They were finely engraved with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel, and set in settings of fine gold, with wreathen chains hanging from the shoulders. These reminded the priest that he was to bear the burdens of the people upon his shoulders to the Lord.

*Galatians 6:2 “Bear ye one another’s burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ.”*

**The Girdle of the Ephod** was a beautifully embroidered sash that was girded or belted around the outside of the robes and Ephod, holding it all together, confirmed by the New Testament that calls the girdle the belt of truth, that holds all the armor together.

## **9. WE ARE LIVING STONES, LIVING BOARDS COVERED IN THE GOLDEN GLORY OF GOD FOR HIS SERVICE!**

*1 Peter 2:4-5,9-10 “Coming to Him as a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light: which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”*



Living stones chosen and precious to God, picture you and me, saved and washed by the Lord Jesus, then He covers your naked humanness with His robe of righteousness! Jesus grows His righteousness in you because you are His own precious treasure, and He gives you a precious work of bringing others to know Him too!

*Ephesians 2:8-10 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”*



Before Jesus even saved you, He created good works for you to do!

*Revelation 7:9 “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.”*

When Jesus comes in the clouds with all those who believe in Him, they are wearing white linen robes that represent the righteous acts of the saints, teaching the word and offering up prayers for others.

## **10. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU & ME**

1. God's plan and order of salvation is in the pattern shown to us in the physical picture of the Tabernacle.
2. God calls us to pray for everyone and everything, because prayer changes our own hearts, and prayer changes everything!
3. God created us to be a Temple, belonging to Him for His use, holding and Ministering the blessing of His Holy Spirit.
4. In times past God chose Aaron and his sons to be priests, but now Jesus lives in us by His Spirit so we can be priests for Him.
5. Jesus wants you and me to follow His example of living to love and intercede for the needs of His people.
6. God clothes us in the robes of His priesthood that are symbolic of His holiness.
7. Jesus wants you and me to be consecrated, cleansed and set apart for His use, ministering in the holy robes of His righteousness.
8. Salvation comes with responsibility because Jesus paid a great price for me, and calls me to be a priest to His people for Him.
9. Together as a church we stand up as human on the outside, but in our humanity, we stand redeemed by our Savior, covered in the gold of His holiness, bound together in His love.
10. When Jesus comes in the clouds to raise up all those who believe in Him, they shall be wearing white linen robes that represent the righteous acts that He created in advance for us to do.

### **CHURCH PRAYS TOGETHER:**



*Dear Father God, Thank you for saving me by the power of your blood shed for me through Jesus Christ, and thank you for showing me the picture of how special it is that I can serve You. I pray You will make me holy and fill my heart with Your love, so I will remember to care for others and love them for You, in Jesus name, Amen.*

## **11. GOSPEL CRAFT & COLORING PAGE: THE EPHOD**

**Directions:** These prayer cards may also be given to the adults without including the coloring page.

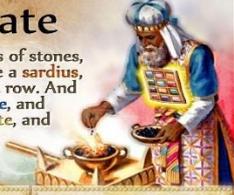
**Copies may be enlarged for children to glue stones.**

1. Cut bright gold card stock exactly in half.
2. Fold each half sheet into a prayer folder for each person.
2. Copy these craft pages on a color copier, 1 copy for each person.
3. Color the picture of the priest ministering for God's people.
4. Write one name for a person to pray for inside each square.
4. Carefully cut out around the black border of the 3 pictures.
5. Glue the Jeweled Ephod page to the front of the prayer folder.
6. Glue the colored picture to the inside left of the prayer folder.
7. Glue the prayer square page to inside right of the prayer folder.
8. Keep God's people close to your heart by praying every day!



## Ephod Breast Plate

**Exodus 28:17** - And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row. And the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. And the third row a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst. And the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be set in gold in their inclosings.



1  Sardius Reuben	2  Topaz Simeon	3  Carbuncle Levi
4  Emerald Judah	5  Sapphire Issachar	6  Diamond Zebulun
7  Ligure Nephtali	8  Agate Gad	9  Amethyst Asher
10  Beryl Manassah	11  Onyx Ephram	12  Jasper Benjamin

**EACH PERSON IS A PRECIOUS JEWEL  
I CAN BE A MINISTER FOR JESUS  
IN HIS TABERNACLE, WHEN I PRAY  
FOR MY FAMILY FRIENDS & OTHERS**
