



Face *to* Face

APPEAL FOR COMMUNITY, VULNERABILITY, AND IN-PERSON FELLOWSHIP

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Remain in me, as I also remain in you... No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

John 15:1,4

He is the Vine. We are the Branches.

We need God and each other.

Face to Face

We are parts of the same body,
each with unique gifts.

Face to Face

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

Building a Dream Team

One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.'

Luke 6:12-16

Face to Face

We are a Royal Priesthood

Face to Face

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.

1 Peter 2:9-10

Part of Something Bigger



Face to Face

Watching Together

NFL and college stadiums often exceed 130 decibels, reaching levels comparable to a jet engine.

The Narendra Modi Stadium in India is the largest stadium in the world by seating capacity, holding a maximum of 132,000 spectators.

85% of fans now prefer watching sports on TV

Face to Face

Priesthood in a Chaotic Temple

Continual animal sacrifices

People trading and selling goods

Many traveling from long distances

Shouts, smells, and crowds



Revelation Celebration



Face to Face

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

Revelation 7:9-10

Face to Face

There's power and unity in coming
together before God.

“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Matthew 18:19-20

Royal Priesthood

Royal: Sovereign, Authority

Priesthood: Able to be in and
administer the presence of God

Royal Priesthood

To be a priest you had to:

Be a Levite and a male descendant of Aaron

At least 30 with no blemishes

Could not marry a dishonored or divorced woman or have been in contact with the dead

Be very well educated and have a deep understanding of Jewish Law

Face to Face

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:4-5

For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

1 Peter 2:6-8

Face to Face

Peter ties this idea back to Isaiah 28:16, and Psalm 118:22 for his audience.

Paul also references this idea in Romans 9:33

Jesus first mention this reference (Psalm 118:22) as an indication that He is building His temple not with stones but with people.

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.

1 Peter 2:9-10

Emperor Nero

Believed to have blamed christians for the Great Fire of Rome in AD64

Persecuted christians on a wide scale for the first time

Christians were crucified, fed to animals or set on fire in a terrible period of martyrdom

Some christians believed he was the antichrist



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.

1 Peter 2:11-12

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

1 Peter 2:13-14

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

1 Peter 2:15-17

To Go or not to Go to Church?



Face to Face

If I'm not there, God can't use me in a situation He may have wanted to.

Sunday 8:42 PM



Just thought it was cool to see the kids
all playing after church



So cool! I wish we had a better space
for them to play in. Maybe someday.
Hope you have an awesome week!

Delivered



Someday, but just like a building it's
the people that make it. They were
more than content playing there.

Face to Face

We are connected to Jesus and each
other through the Vine

(John 15)

We are parts of the same body,
each with unique gifts.

(1 Corinthians 12)

We are part of an amazing team,
chosen to be both disciples and
apostles.

(Matthew 28:18-20)

We are called to be a Royal Priesthood,
the living stones built upon the
Cornerstone.

(1 Peter 2)



“I CAN DO
THINGS YOU CANNOT,
YOU CAN DO
THINGS I CANNOT;
TOGETHER
WE CAN DO
GREAT THINGS.”

-Mother Teresa

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