



Part 1

Mike Dinnius – September 3, 2017

**Merge: Does God Want Me to Blend In?**

<sup>18</sup> *The teaching about the cross is foolishness to those who are being lost, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NCV)

**4 ways we are called to stand out:**

1. We are called to be SALT!

<sup>13</sup> *“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.* Matthew 5:13 (NIV)

Read: [John 15:18-25 \(NIV\)](#)

2. We are called to be LIGHT!

<sup>14</sup> *“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.* Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

<sup>30</sup> *“I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one.* Ezekiel 22:30 (NIV)

3. We are called to be A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD!

<sup>4</sup> *As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup>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. ...<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood,...* 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9a (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> *Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

4. We are called to be A HOLY NATION!

<sup>9</sup> *But you are ... 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. <sup>10</sup>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 2:9b-10 (NIV)

**What Now?**

1. We live AS FOREIGNERS!

<sup>11</sup> *Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>Submit yourselves for the LORD’s sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, <sup>14</sup>or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. <sup>15</sup>For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. <sup>16</sup>Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves. <sup>17</sup>Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.* 1 Peter 2:11-17 (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> *But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the LORD Jesus Christ, ...* Philippians 3:20 (NIV)

2. We live IN A WAY THAT BRINGS HONOR TO THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST!

<sup>27</sup> *Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup>without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. <sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup>since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.* Philippians 1:27-30 (NIV)

<sup>23</sup> *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the LORD, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup>since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the LORD as a reward. It is the LORD Christ you are serving.* Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

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