

# Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

## In The Midst - Week 3

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### Introduction

We live in a world that can magnify and even celebrate the negative news and ungodly social attitudes that are prevalent around us. Yet as God's adopted children we are given an awesome opportunity to reflect the love and grace of Jesus in our broken world. To do this we need to have a mindset that is reflective of our identity in Jesus, one that demonstrates positivity in the midst.

### Bible Passage

1 Peter 2:9-17

### Discussion

1. Peter writes that God's people are "chosen" and "a royal priesthood". What does this mean to you? How does it affect your identity?
2. What is a practical way to demonstrate love to another person who holds an opposing viewpoint, belief or lifestyle to you? Is this difficult? Why/ why not?
3. To be a light in the world requires grace. Discuss.
4. Read 1 Peter 2:13-14. How do you understand the terms "to submit" and "to obey" in regard to civil law and God's law? What can you do if a civil law contravenes a biblical or ethical principle? Have you ever faced this dilemma? How did you respond?
5. How do you understand the 'permissive will' and the 'sovereign will' of God when really negative things happen to you?
6. What does living positively for God look like for you?

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## **Respond**

A light reading of these verses could lead a person to feel they need to be more, feel more and do more, but when we consider verse two we are repositioned. Instead of needing to be, feel and do more, we find ourselves in a place of being known and chosen; a place where we can follow God's leading and respond accordingly. Where is God at work in your life, and how are you responding to Him?

