



Key References:

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)

⁹ But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Exodus 13:21-22 (NLT)

²¹ The Lord went ahead of them. He guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud, and he provided light at night with a pillar of fire. This allowed them to travel by day or by night. ²² And the Lord did not remove the pillar of cloud or pillar of fire from its place in front of the people.

John 12:27-28 (NLT)

²⁷ "Now my soul is deeply troubled. Should I pray, 'Father, save me from this hour'? But this is the very reason I came! ²⁸ Father, bring glory to your name." Then a voice spoke from heaven, saying, "I have already brought glory to my name, and I will do so again."

Mark 2:21-22 (NIV)

²¹ "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. ²² And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

Acts 4:29-31 (NLT)

²⁹ And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ³¹ After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

Reflecting back on the past weekend's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1 – EVERYTHING IS MAGNIFIED

We suggested that, "*In isolation, everything in our lives becomes magnified; we have less distractions and so it all becomes more focused.*" **Have you ever experienced a situation where you were alone or isolated with a small group of others and the "little things" suddenly became a big deal? Share some examples from your life.**

Read 1 Peter 2:9. In the same way that isolation magnified those little things in ourselves and our relationships, it does that same in our spiritual lives and in the church. **What areas in your life and faith, which you may have overlooked in the past, has God been highlighting during this year?**

2 – A CLOUD BY DAY AND FIRE BY NIGHT

In the Old Testament, the people of Israel followed Moses as their leader and they would move when the pillar of cloud moved (Exodus 13:21-22). We said, "*Some of us have been living off the revelation of the pastor, but God wants us to follow His cloud.*" **What do you think about this statement? How does it apply to your own life and faith?**

3 – KEEPING IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT

Read Mark 2:21-22. Is it possible that the Lord might be using the isolation and the discomfort of this year to do something new in your life and in our church community? **What are some new wineskins that you think God might be putting into your life this year so that He can expand his impact through you?**

We reminded us that the early church never prayed for safety, but rather, boldness. Read Acts 4:29-31. **Pray that God would give your group boldness this week to shine His light through your lives and practically minister to the world around you.**