

**Better**

A Study in Hebrews

## A BETTER PRIESTHOOD

### CONNECT

### DISCUSS—Hebrews 7

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- Read Genesis 14:17-24. How does this story help to clarify what the writer of Hebrews is saying?
- According to our passage, what is the main point the writer of Hebrews is trying to make with his emphasis on Melchizedek? Why is that point important for Christians to hear?
- What is weak and useless about the law according to this passage? How does the Gospel bring a better hope? According to our passage this hope allows us to draw near to God, describe a time when you have felt particularly near to God. What caused that nearness?
- In what ways is Jesus a better priest than those under the Jewish system?
- What does it mean that Jesus makes intercession for us? Why is this Good News?
- How is Jesus described in verse 26? Why is the fact that Jesus' sacrifice is "once for all" important?

### RELATE

- What was the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week?
- What was your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.

## **A BETTER PROMISE**

### CONNECT

#### DISCUSS—Hebrews 8

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- At the beginning of Hebrews 8, the writer of Hebrews sums up what he has been saying so far in Hebrews. What has most stood out to you during this series?
- In verse 5, the writer of Hebrews suggests that Old Testament sacrificial system and the tabernacle were “copies and shadows of the heavenly things.” What does this mean? How does this change the way that we should read the Old Testament?
- In what specific ways does the Old Testament priesthood and sacrificial system prefigure and point forward to Jesus?
- What is the covenant that Jesus has mediated? What are the better promises on which it is based? What four promises do you see in the quote from Jeremiah 31?
- What does verse 13 mean? What about the Old Covenant is obsolete? Why should Christians still obey the Ten Commandments, for example?

### RELATE

- What has been the spiritual highlight of this week?
- What has been your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.

## **A BETTER PURIFICATION**

### CONNECT

### DISCUSS—Hebrews 9:11-28

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- What are some ways that you settle for religious rituals rather than a real relationship with Jesus? What is so enticing about religious rituals?
- Which do you struggle with most in your walk with the Lord: shame, guilt, or fear?
- Read verse 14. Why do you think purity matters so much to God? What do you feel when you hear that Jesus declares that you are pure?
- Read Psalm 51:4. How is David's view of his sin different than ours? Read Hebrews 9:24. Why is it necessary for Jesus to come before the Father on our behalf?
- Why is verse 27 important? How does it create urgency?
- Read verse 28. If you truly believed that Jesus has sealed you for an eternity, how would your life look different? How would your life be different if you truly believed that Jesus' sacrifice was "once for all" as it relates to your sin?

### RELATE

- What has been the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week?
- What has been your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.

## **A BETTER SACRIFICE**

### CONNECT

#### DISCUSS—Hebrews 10

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- In the first 18 verses of this chapter, the writer of Hebrews once again summarizes some of what he has been talking about so far in this letter. What does this summary add to what we have seen so far in Hebrews?
- The “therefore” in verse 19 signals that the writer of Hebrews is giving us a point of application to all this theology that he has been writing about. What should we do in light of the truths that the writer of Hebrews has presented? What does it mean to have a true heart and a full assurance of faith? What does it mean to hold fast to the confession of our hope? What does it mean to stir one another up to love and good works? What is one practical application point for your life this week in light of these verses?
- Describe a time when someone else has stirred you up to love and good works. Why is it easy in our culture to neglect meeting together? Who is one person that you are going to encourage this week?

### RELATE

- What was the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week?
- What was your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.

## BETTER AND WORSE HEROES

### CONNECT

#### DISCUSS—Hebrews 11

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- How does this chapter connect with verses 35-39 of chapter 10?
- What is the definition of faith given in verse 1 and verse 6? How is this definition different from or similar to the way that you normally define faith? What specifically does the writer of Hebrews say that those with faith believe?
- Which description of an Old Testament figure most stands out to you? How is the writer of Hebrews understanding of the Old Testament different from most people's understanding of the Old Testament? According to this passage how was someone in the Old Testament saved?
- According to this passage, when did Abraham exercise faith? What was Abraham looking forward to in faith?
- Read verses 32 to 38 again. How do these verses make you feel?
- According to this chapter, what is the main point of the Old Testament?
- How is our faith better than the faith of those in the Old Testament? How is it the same?

### RELATE

- What was the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week? What was your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.

## **A BETTER MOTIVATION**

### CONNECT

#### DISCUSS—Hebrews 12:1-17

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- Who are the great cloud of witnesses?
- What are some examples of sin that hinders and entangles us? Why is the word perseverance important? How have you seen Christians run without perseverance?
- What is the joy that was set before Jesus on the cross? How does looking to Jesus help us as we run the race of the Christian life?
- How does verse 4 put our struggle against sin into perspective? Describe a time when you think you experienced discipline from the Lord.
- Read Romans 8:15. In what ways is God's "fatherness" good news?
- Where do you need to find strength in your Christianity? What do you need to throw off as you follow Jesus? How can this community help you with that?

### RELATE

- What was the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week?
- What was your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

#### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

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## A BETTER FUTURE

### CONNECT

### DISCUSS—12:18-28

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- What is the point of the comparison between Mt. Zion and Mt. Sinai? What is better about Mt. Zion?
- What is the better word that Jesus' blood speaks?
- Read Revelation 21:1-5, 22-27. What is good in this picture of the heavenly Jerusalem?
- How does the future residence of believers help them when they are struggling?
- According to this passage, why is it urgent that the readers listen? How should the coming judgment impact the way that we approach people we care about?
- Why does the fact that God is a consuming fire lead us to be thankful and to worship?
- What in this passage comforts you? What makes you uneasy?

### RELATE

- What was the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week?
- What was your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.



## **A BETTER LIFE**

### CONNECT

### DISCUSS—13

- What stands out to you about these verses?
- What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon?
- Which of these concluding exhortations is most challenging to you? How does the truth about God's character in verses 5 and 6 help us to live these exhortations?
- What are the some ways that spiritual leaders' lives have impacted your faith in a positive way? What about in a negative way?
- What are some of the strange teachings that it is easy to believe in our culture?
- What is the point of verses 11 to 14 and why is it significant?
- Why is verse 17 hard? What is one way that you can encourage a spiritual leader in your life this week?
- If you had to sum up the main way that the Book of Hebrews has impacted you over the last several months, what would you say?

### RELATE

- What was the highlight of your walk with the Lord this week?
- What was your biggest spiritual struggle this week?

### IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

- Pray for one person that you can trust the Lord to impact this week.