

# HEBREWS



Unshakeable  
**FAITH**

Incomparable  
**CHRIST**

**HEBREWS:  
UNSHAKEABLE FAITH, INCOMPARABLE CHRIST**

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“So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

HEBREWS 6:17-20

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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### INTRODUCTION

### STUDY TOOLS

WEEK 1	Hebrews 1	Monday, January 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sunday, January 7 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 2	Hebrews 2:1-9	Monday, January 8 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 14 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 3	Hebrews 2:10-18	Monday, January 15 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 21 <sup>st</sup>
WEEK 4	Hebrews 3:1-6	Monday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, January 28 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 5	Hebrews 3:7-19	Monday, January 29 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 4 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 6	Hebrews 4:1-13	Monday, February 5 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 11 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 7	Hebrews 4:14-16	Monday, February 12 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 18 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 8	Hebrews 5:1-10	Monday, February 19 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 25 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 9	Hebrews 5:11-6:12	Monday, February 26 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup>
WEEK 10	Hebrews 6:13-20	Monday, March 4 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 11	Hebrews 7:1-19	Monday, March 11 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 17 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 12	Hebrews 7:20-28	Monday, March 18 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 24 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 13	Hebrews 8	Monday, March 25 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 31 <sup>st</sup>
WEEK 14	Hebrews 9:1-10:18	Monday, April 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sunday, April 7 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 15	Hebrews 10:19-39	Monday, April 8 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 16	Hebrews 11:1-22	Monday, April 15 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 21 <sup>st</sup>
WEEK 17	Hebrews 11:23-40	Monday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 18	Hebrews 12:1-3	Monday, April 29 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 5 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 19	Hebrews 12:4-17	Monday, May 6 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 12 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 20	Hebrews 12:18-29	Monday, May 13 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 19 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 21	Hebrews 13:1-19	Monday, May 20 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 26 <sup>th</sup>
WEEK 22	Hebrews 13:20-25	Monday, May 27 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup>

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our study of Hebrews! This guide is meant to facilitate your personal study of God's word as we dig into this book as a church family. Our hope is that you would depend on the Lord as you come to His word and be confident that He will help you study, understand, and apply His truth to your life.

This study uses a variety of tools to help you observe and reflect on the passage each week. Each week, you will find familiar study tools and prompts: marking repeated words, answering observation questions, summarizing paragraphs, looking up cross references, and prayerfully applying the text to your life. The point is not for these tools to be binding, but helpful to you as you spend time in God's word. You can use as many or as few of the tools and questions that you would like. To give you complete flexibility, the weeks of this guide are not divided into days. Additionally, you will find Observation (What does the text say?) and Interpretation (What does the text mean?) blended together in this guide. You will notice natural breaks between assignments where you can pause and pick up the next day, but we want you to use the guide however is best for you and your season. This study is written based on the English Standard Version, so you may find some slight variation in key words or phrasing if you're using a different version.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the influence of Jen Wilkin's *Better: A Study of Hebrews* and Kay Arthur's *Precept Upon Precept: Hebrews Part 1, 2, and 3* studies in compiling this series guide. Both works served immensely in personal study and writing. Additionally, John Piper's Hebrews sermons shaped my thinking and writing significantly. I thank God for their example in the faith. Their faithfulness in the work God has called them to aids my own (Hebrews 11, 13:7).

The book of Hebrews is a masterfully written argument, where the author builds a case that Jesus is superior to all the Old Testament shadows. Though we will cover longer passages in some weeks, the majority of this series breaks the book into smaller sections (often 1-2 paragraphs). As we study, it will be crucial to consider the author's flow of argument throughout the book. Take notice of his claims and supporting evidence as you read, making special note of transitions between ideas (signaled by the words "therefore, for"). Remember that this letter did not originally contain chapters or verses, and the author builds an uninterrupted case across the whole letter.

We pray that as we open the pages of this rich book, you would come to more deeply know and worship the Lord Jesus, who is infinitely superior to anyone and anything. As we repeat and remember often as a church, Jesus is better!

Happy studying!

In Him,

Katherine Ann Rush  
Deacon of Resourcing

## STUDY TOOLS

The book of Hebrews has many repeated and significant words. As always, feel free to annotate as much or little as you choose each week. Below you will find a list of the main key words for the entire book of Hebrews. You will be prompted to mark specific words each week (sometimes words that are not on this list), but if you prefer to have a master list with your key symbols, you can refer to this page.

God the Father  
Jesus  
Holy Spirit  
Better/more excellent/superior/greater  
Holy  
Blood  
Angels  
Faith/faithful  
Sin  
Perfect/perfected  
Covenant  
Offering  
Worship/serve  
Draw near  
Heart  
Righteous  
Sacrifice  
Time references  
Law  
Priest/priesthood  
Therefore  
Let us  
Hold fast/confidence/firm  
Promise

As you study, you may also want to look up the definitions of certain words. You can glean immense insight from a basic English dictionary, but if you want to research the meaning of a word in the original languages, here are instructions for using two different online word study tools.

Blue Letter Bible:

- 1) Type the book/chapter/verse reference in the search bar at the top of the page.
- 2) Click on the verse reference (e.g., “Ephesians 1:4”) on the left side of the page.
- 3) Click on the number of the word.

BibleHub:

- 1) Select the book/chapter/verse reference at the top of the page.
- 2) Select “Interlinear” (INT).
- 3) Click on the number above the word.

## WEEK 1

HEBREWS 1 | Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then, if you have time, read the entire book of Hebrews this week. Write down any questions or observations you have upon a first read below.

Read Hebrews 1. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Better/more excellent/superior (depending on your translation)
- Angels

Note: The pronouns referring to God the Father and Jesus get a bit tricky in this passage. Read slowly and use context to determine who the “He/Him” pronouns are referring to. Marking God the Father and Jesus in distinct ways will help differentiate between the two as you continue to study the passage after annotating.

Based on Hebrews 1, answer the following questions:

1. How does this letter begin? How is the opening different than other letters in the New Testament you have read?
2. What time references do you notice in the opening verse (vs. 1)? What do you learn about how God spoke at this time?
3. Look up the following cross references and note some of the “many ways” that God spoke long ago.
  - a. Genesis 28:10-16
  - b. Exodus 3:1-6
  - c. Numbers 22:28, 32
  - d. Amos 3:7
4. What contrast does the author make (vs. 2)? What time reference do you notice, and what do you learn about how God has spoken in this time?

5. Why might a comparison between Christ and the angels have been helpful for the original audience? Compare with Colossians 2:18 and Revelation 22:8-9.
6. Write down everything you learn about Jesus in these opening verses (vs. 2-4)?
7. Note where you marked better/superior/more excellent (vs. 4). Who is Jesus superior to?
8. The author will spend the rest of Chapter 1 supporting the argument that Jesus is better than angels through seven Old Testament cross references. Write down the point the author makes in each verse below:
  - a. Hebrews 1:5a (Quoting Psalm 2:7)
  - b. Hebrews 1:5b (Quoting Psalm 2 Samuel 7:14)
  - c. Hebrews 1:6 (Quoting Psalm 97:7, see also Luke 2:8-14)
  - d. Hebrews 1:7 (Quoting Psalm 104:4)
  - e. Hebrews 1:8-9 (Quoting Psalm 45:6-7)
  - f. Hebrews 1:10-12 (Quoting Psalm 102:25-27)
  - g. Hebrews 1:13 (Quoting Psalm 110:1)
9. Why do you think the author builds his case from the Old Testament? What does this strategy show you about the author and his audience?
10. After establishing that Christ is superior to angels, what does the author explain about the true role of angels at the end of the chapter (vs. 14)?
11. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 1?





**WEEK 1 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 1 | Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 2

HEBREWS 2:1-9 | Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 2:1-9. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Angels
- Man/son of man (in this context refers to human beings)
- Therefore/For
- Great (like you marked better, superior, more excellent)

For further study, mark references to:

- Subjected
- Crowned, glory, honor
- Salvation
- Death

Based on Hebrews 2:1-4, answer the following questions:

1. What transition word do you find at the beginning of this chapter (vs. 1)? How does the author continue his flow of thought from the previous verses?
2. What warning does the author give and why (vs. 1)?
3. What do you learn about “the message declared by angels” (vs. 2)? Compare with Acts 7:52-53 and Galatians 3:19. Based on these cross references, what message is the author referring to?
4. The author calls on his Jewish Christian audience to remember Old Testament stories at the end of verse 2. Based on your Old Testament knowledge, write down an example of a time that sin received “just retribution.” How would such examples have reinforced the fact that the message that angels declared (the law) was reliable?
5. After establishing that the message given by angels was reliable, what rhetorical question does the author ask (vs. 3)? What danger does he want the readers to avoid?
6. Who declared this message first, and who attested to its truth (vs. 3-4)? Compare with Acts 7:22, 43.

7. Based on these verses, what message does the author not want his readers to neglect?
8. Look up the words “neglect” and “drift” in an online dictionary. What do these words mean? How do people tend to neglect and drift away from something important? How does this help you understand why the author gives such a strong warning in this chapter?

Based on Hebrews 2:5-8, answer the following questions:

9. What is the author’s next point (vs. 5)?
10. What specific world does he mention? How would this relate to his discussion of our “great salvation” (2:3) and inheritance (1:14)?
11. After making his claim (vs. 5), the author provides supporting evidence (vs. 6-9). To whom did God originally subject both the present world and the world to come (vs. 6-8)?
12. Think about it. Is mankind perfectly ruling the world God made? What are we all “subject to” because of sin (vs. 9)?
13. The author quotes Psalm 8 in Hebrews 2:6-8. Read the entirety of Psalm 8. What do you learn about mankind?
14. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How does this passage relate to Psalm 8 and Hebrews 2?
15. Why do you think the author applies Psalm 8 to Jesus in Hebrews 2?
16. Though we do not now see mankind perfectly ruling creation, who do we see (vs. 8)? What do you learn about Him in this verse? How was He made lower than the angels “for a little while?” (Hint: Consider His incarnation and what He experienced as a result that angels never experience.)
17. Read 1 Corinthians 15:21-28. Who took the form of man and perfectly fulfilled mankind’s role to rule over creation? How does this passage relate to Hebrews 2?

## APPLICATION

1. Consider the danger that the author of Hebrews warned his audience of, as well as his exhortation (Hebrews 2:1-3). In what ways are you tempted to neglect the Lord and His word? What other messages compete for your attention?
2. Give an example of a time you neglected the Lord and what you were paying attention to instead. What happened? How can you “pay much closer attention” to the truth so that you don’t drift away from it?
3. In what ways do you personally experience mankind’s subjection to creation (e.g., natural disasters), sin (e.g., relational conflict), and death? In other words, what frustrating futility, loss, and struggle are you facing here on earth? Why is it crucial to remember that Jesus fulfilled Psalm 8 for us, and that He is in control of everything?
4. What difference does it make that Christ tasted death for you – that the One with all things under His control lowered Himself to come for us? How does this show you His superiority?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 2 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 2:1-9 | Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

### WEEK 3

HEBREWS 2:10-18 | Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

#### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 2:10-18. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- References to family language (brothers/sons/children/offspring)
- Perfect
- Death
- Suffering/suffered
- Help
- Therefore/for

For further study, mark references to:

- Salvation
- Glory
- Angels
- The devil

Based on Hebrews 2:10-18, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section continue the flow of thought from the previous section (vs. 10)?
2. What do you think it means for God to make Jesus, the Founder of our salvation, “perfect” through suffering? If you want to look up the original Greek definition of the word, you can find instructions for word studies at the beginning of the guide.
3. What do you learn about Jesus and His relationship to His “brothers” (vs. 11-13)? See Psalm 22:22 and Isaiah 8:18 to read more of the passages the author quotes in this section.
4. Jesus put on a human body (known as the incarnation) to accomplish our salvation. Read each verse and note the reasons for His incarnation, and what He offers all of His “brothers.”
  - a. Hebrews 2:14
  - b. Hebrews 2:15
  - c. Hebrews 2:16 (compare with Galatians 3:7)
  - d. Hebrews 2:17

e. Hebrews 2:18

5. How are believers contrasted with angels (vs. 16)? Do angels belong to the family of God?
6. Notice the repetition of family language (vs. 10-18). What family term is given to believers in relationship to God the Father? What family term is given to believers in relationship to Jesus? Why is it significant for us to understand our salvation in familial terms?
7. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 2?

### **APPLICATION**

1. Do you tend to think of your salvation as being saved into a family where God is your Father, Jesus is your Brother, and other believers are your spiritual siblings? How would more deeply embracing the corporate and familial nature of our faith shape your relationships, time, worship, and walk with the Lord?
2. How do you typically think of Jesus' attitude toward you? How might believing that Jesus is not ashamed to call you His very own family impact your life?
3. Look back on all the ways Jesus is able to help us because of His incarnation (vs. 14-18)? Which stand out to you? Which do you most need to trust and rely on in this season?
4. Based on Hebrews 2:10-18, how is Jesus a better Brother and a better Help for His people?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?



**WEEK 3 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 2:10-18 | Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

## WEEK 4

HEBREWS 3:1-6 | Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 3:1-6. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Better/superior/more excellent
- Moses
- Faithful
- House (the same as family language last week)

For further study, mark references to:

- Share in
- Hold fast/confidence

Based on Hebrews 3:1-6, answer the following questions:

1. What important word do you find at the beginning of this chapter (vs. 1)? How does this section flow logically from the previous one?
2. Based on this section, who is Jesus superior to?
3. What do you learn about believers (vs. 1)? What are they told to do?
4. What do you learn about Jesus (vs. 1-2)? What comparison does the author make?
5. Based on vs. 3-4, why is Jesus superior to Moses? What contrasts do you see?
6. Based on vs. 5-6, why is Jesus superior to Moses? What contrasts do you see?
7. What similarities do you see between Hebrews 3:3-6 and Hebrews 1:2?
8. What do you learn about believers (vs. 6)?

## APPLICATION

1. What encouragement can you draw from Jesus' superiority to Moses? Why is it significant that Jesus is faithful over God's house as a son?
2. What is the significance of belonging to "God's house?" What does this belonging mean for your identity, purpose, and daily life?
3. In what ways are you struggling to hold fast your confidence and hope? What practical steps can you take to remind yourself and others of your hope and pray for strength to persevere?
4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 4 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 3:1-6 | Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 5

HEBREWS 3:7-19 | Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 3:1-19. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Holy Spirit
- Hear
- Heart
- Sin/evil/rebellion
- Rest/Enter His rest
- Unbelief

For further study, mark references to:

- Share in
- Test
- Hold fast/confidence

Based on Hebrews 3:7-19, answer the following questions:

1. What important word do you find at the beginning of this paragraph (vs. 7)? How does this section relate to the previous paragraph?
2. The author quotes the inspired words of Psalm 95:7-11 in this chapter. Therefore, who does he say is speaking (vs. 7)? Read Psalm 95 for context.
3. What warning is given to the hearers (vs. 7-8)?
4. How is Israel's rebellion described both in heart and action (vs. 8-10)?
5. Israel rebelled against the LORD repeatedly (e.g., Exodus 17:1-7, Numbers 20:1-13). However, one specific rebellion prevented an entire generation from entering the promised land and led to their 40 years of wandering in the wilderness. This key moment is referenced repeatedly in Hebrews 3-4. Read Numbers 14 and note what you learn about their unbelief, rebellion, and consequences.
6. Comparing Numbers 14 and Hebrews 3:11, what do you think is the most literal meaning of Israel's failure to enter God's "rest"?

7. Based on Israel's example, what warnings, exhortations, and encouragements does the author of Hebrews apply to his audience (vs. 12-14)?
8. Look up the definition of the word "exhort" (vs. 13). What do you learn? How does this help you understand the meaning of this verse better?
9. What warning does the author repeat (vs. 15)? Why do you think he repeats this idea?
10. What else do you learn about Israel's rebellion (vs. 15-19)? Ultimately, why was Israel not able to enter the promised land?
11. What do you learn in Hebrews 3 about the significance of our hearts and the root of sin?
12. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 3?

#### **APPLICATION**

1. In what ways do you need to "take care" that you are not being deceived by sin? Do you think of sin as seriously as Hebrews does? What are ways you minimize the danger and severity of sin in your own life?
2. Are you exhorting others day after day? Are others exhorting you? Do you find exhorting others or being exhorted more difficult? In what ways do you need to devote yourself to this command?
3. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 5 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 3:7-19 | Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 6

HEBREWS 4:1-13 | Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer.

First, read Hebrews 3:1-4:13 to read the author's whole argument in this section.

Now, read Hebrews 4:1-13. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Rest/Enter His rest
- Faith/Believe

For further study, mark references to:

- Hear
- Heart
- Sin/evil/rebellion
- Time references

Based on Hebrews 4:1-13, answer the following questions:

1. What important word do you find at the beginning of this chapter (vs. 1)? How does this section relate to the previous chapter?
2. What promise still stands (vs. 1)? Who does the author apply this promise to?
3. The author takes the promise of Israel entering God's rest (the Promised Land) and applies it to his audience of (primarily Jewish) believers. At this point, what do you think "entering God's rest" means for a modern listener?
4. What do you learn about the good news and who it came to (vs. 2)?
5. Re-read Numbers 14:7-9. What good news had Israel heard right before they were meant to enter the promised land? Why did the news not benefit them (Hebrews 4:2, 6)?
6. Read Romans 10:13-17. What good news had the audience of Hebrews (and all Christians at this time) heard? Based on Hebrews 4:2, in what case would this good news not benefit someone today?



7. According to Hebrews 4:3, who enters God’s rest? Based on this, what do you think “God’s rest” means for the believer? Compare with your answer to #3.
  
8. The author develops a beautiful argument to explain that God’s rest is still available. Look at each of the following time periods the author mentions and match them with the correct reference in the chapter. At each time mentioned, the promise of entering God’s rest is given. The time periods are in chronological order, not the order they are mentioned in the chapter.

<b>Time Period (Chronological Order)</b>	<b>Hebrews 4 Reference</b>
Creation	Hebrews 4:5-6 (see Numbers 14:22-23)
Moses attempting to lead Israel into the Promised Land (1 <sup>st</sup> attempt)	Hebrews 4:3b-4 (see Genesis 2:1-3)
Joshua successfully leading Israel into the Promised Land (2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt)	Hebrews 4:9-10
The time of King David	Hebrews 4:8 (see Joshua 1:2)
Today	Hebrews 4:7 (note the king who wrote Psalm 95)

9. What is the author’s point (vs. 9-10)?
  
10. What is his final exhortation (vs. 11)?
  
11. What kind of rest do believers enter today? Read Matthew 11:28-29 to help with your answer.
  
12. What familiar verses do you find at the end of this section (vs. 12-13)? What do you learn? How do these verses relate to the larger context of Hebrews 3-4?

## APPLICATION

1. Have you “entered God’s rest” through faith in Jesus? Are you attempting to do that by your own work and effort rather than by what Jesus accomplished?
2. For those who have entered the salvation rest of Jesus, are you daily striving to stay in that rest? Where do you see yourself reverting back to restlessness and dependence on your works for your relationship with God? How can you better rest in the finished work of Jesus today?
3. In what ways are you fighting unbelief right now? How can you overcome temptation by faith in God’s promises? What specifically do you need to trust about Him?
4. How have you experienced the piercing power of the word of God?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 6 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 4:1-13 | Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 7

HEBREWS 4:14-16 | Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 4:14-16. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- High priest
- Weakness, temptation, need
- Let us
- Draw near

Based on Hebrews 4:14-16, answer the following questions:

1. How do these verses flow logically from the passage before?
2. What do believers have, and what do you learn about Him (vs. 14)?
3. What are believers instructed to do (vs. 14)? Why?
4. Compare this exhortation with Hebrews 3:6, 3:14, 6:18, and 10:23. What else do you learn? To what should believers be holding fast?
5. What further description does the author give about our high priest (vs. 15)?
6. Look up the word “sympathize” in a dictionary or the original language. What do you learn?
7. How is Jesus both similar to and different from the high priests in the Old Testament?
8. What exhortation do you find at the end of the chapter (vs. 16)?

9. Prayerfully meditate on Hebrews 4:16. To do so, see if you can write down 25 observations only from verse 16. Read one word/phrase at a time and ask yourself questions like “who? what? when? where? why? how?” to help you meditate on what the verse says. No observation is too basic! To get you started, a few observations are listed below. Use your observations to prayerfully consider the application of each. This practice is a great tool to meditate on any verse. After you’re finished, share with someone in your GC. If you really want a challenge, try to find 25 more unique observations from Hebrews 4:16 after you finish your first 25. 😊

#### 25 Observations of Hebrews 4:16

1. “Let us” implies that this exhortation is plural – this applies to all believers
2. “Let us...” implies that there is something I should actively do in response to the truths of vs. 14-15
3. The word “us” implies that all believers are included, including me! I can draw near to God.
4. How should I draw near? With confidence.
- 5.

10. How do Hebrews 4:14-16 emphasize both the humanity and divinity of Jesus? Why are both crucial?

11. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 4?

## APPLICATION

1. Are there any ways you are struggling to hold fast your confession and hope in Jesus? What encouragement do you need in this season? How did the Lord use this passage to strengthen you?
2. What difference should it make in our lives that we have a merciful, sympathetic high priest who has been tempted as we are, yet without sin? How should these truths about Jesus help us draw near to Him?
3. Which aspect of Hebrews 4:16 is most challenging for you? Drawing near to God at all? Drawing near to God with confidence? Drawing near to God in time of need? Something else? How does this passage encourage you?
4. We will cover this more next week, but based on this passage, how is Jesus better than the high priests of the Old Testament?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 7 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 4:14-16 | Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 8

HEBREWS 5:1-10 | Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 5:1-10. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- High priest
- Obedience

Based on Hebrews 5:1-10, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section flow logically from Chapter 4?
2. What do you learn about the role of the high priests in the Old Testament (vs. 1)?
3. How was the high priest able to deal with the weaknesses of God's people (vs. 2)?
4. What limitation did these high priests have (vs. 3)?
5. Who called high priests into their office (vs. 4)?
6. How was Christ similar to these high priests (vs. 5)?
7. From Hebrews 5:1-5, what other similarities and differences do you notice between Jesus and the high priests of the Old Testament?
8. Read Psalm 2:6-7 and Psalm 110:4, both of which the author quotes in Hebrews 5:5-6. What additional title is ascribed to Jesus in Psalm 2?
9. Read Genesis 14:18. What two titles are given to Melchizedek? What similarity do you see between him and Jesus at this point?
10. What do you learn about Jesus "in the days of His flesh" (vs. 7)? What moment of Jesus' earthly life do you think the author is referencing? Compare with Matthew 26:36-39.



11. What else do you learn about Jesus, His suffering, and His obedience (vs. 8-10)?
12. Knowing that Jesus never sinned, what do you think the author means by saying Jesus “learned obedience through what He suffered” and was “made perfect”?

### **APPLICATION**

1. How is Jesus a better high priest? How will this truth change the way you approach Him?
2. As part of God’s “royal priesthood” (1 Peter 2:9), how do you tend to deal with the “ignorant and wayward” around you? What can you learn from Jesus’ gentleness with us?
3. How has the Lord used suffering in your life to teach you obedience?
4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 8 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 5:1-10 | Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 9

HEBREWS 5:11-6:12 | Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 5:11-6:12. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Teach
- Basic principles/milk
- Word of righteousness/solid food
- Let us
- Better

For further study, mark references to:

- Land
- Hope
- Promises

Based on Hebrews 5:11-6:12, answer the following questions:

1. How does this passage flow logically from the section before?
2. What challenge does the author mention about his audience (5:11)?
3. How does he admonish them (5:12)? What do they need?
4. What metaphor does the author use in these verses (5:12-14)? What does each kind of food represent? What do you learn about these two kinds of people?
5. What important word begins Chapter 6? How does the argument continue from the previous verses?
6. What does the author urge his audience to do (6:1-3)?
7. What six foundational teachings belong to “elementary” or basic doctrine (6:1-2)? List each one and write down what you think each refers to.

8. After urging his audience to mature in their faith, the author describes an opposite kind of person. What do you learn about the alternative direction someone could follow (6:4-6)?
9. The author uses another metaphor to contrast a person of maturing faith and a person of unbelief. What is this metaphor (6:7-8)? Write down the two kinds of crops and the two outcomes you see.
10. How does the author reassure his audience after giving these sobering warnings (6:9)? What visible evidence of “good crops” did he see in their lives?
11. What do you learn about these believers and the author’s hopes for them (6:10-12)?
12. What “better than” comparison do you see in this week’s passage?
13. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 5?

#### **APPLICATION**

1. What distractions, fears, or challenges keep you from moving on to maturity in your faith? How do you most want to grow in your walk with the Lord?
2. How have you seen the Lord grow you in your faith in the past year? How has He trained you in discernment and righteousness?
3. How should the warnings of Hebrews 6 shape your view of your own and others’ sin?
4. What can you learn from the example of the original audience of the book of Hebrews? Are there any ways you feel sluggish in your faith right now? Whose faith and patience might you imitate?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 9 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 5:11-6:12 | Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

## WEEK 10

HEBREWS 6:13-20 | Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 6:13-20. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Promise
- Hope/Anchor
- Greater

Based on Hebrews 6:13-20, answer the following questions:

1. What word begins this section? How does this section logically flow from the previous verses?
2. What event does the author reference (vs. 13-14)? Compare with Genesis 22:15-18.
3. In His promise to Abraham, who did the LORD swear by and why (vs. 13-14)?
4. What do you learn about Abraham (vs. 15)? How does his example relate to 6:12?
5. How do people normally guarantee the validity of a promise (vs. 16)?
6. What did God desire to show about His promise (vs. 17)? How did He go above and beyond to guarantee it?
7. What does the surety of God's promise provide for believers (vs. 18)?
8. Look up the word for "hope" in the original language using the Greek word study tools explained at the beginning of the guide. How is biblical hope different than the way our world describes hope?
9. What metaphor does the author use to describe the relationship between our sure hope and our soul (vs. 19)? How does this comparison help you better understand what he means?
10. How is the anchor described (vs. 19)?

11. What do you learn about Jesus (vs. 19-20)?

12. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 6?

### **APPLICATION**

1. Think of a time that someone failed to keep their promises to you. How did you feel? What was the result? What difference does it make in your life that God never breaks His word? In what circumstances and struggles do you need to remember that God's promises are sure, unchanging, and guaranteed?
2. Though most of us would quickly agree that God never lies, where are you functionally living as though God's word isn't fully true? What would change if you repented and trusted what He has said?
3. Where do you tend to turn for a sense of security and safety? To what false sources of hope have you attempted to anchor your soul? Why is Jesus a better refuge and anchor?
4. How have you experienced the anchoring power of the "hope set before you" when the storms of life rage? How might you encourage someone else about the "sure and steadfast anchor" they have in their own storms?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 10 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 6:13-20 | Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>



## WEEK 11

HEBREWS 7:1-19 | Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 7:1-19. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Melchizedek
- Abraham
- Priest/priesthood
- Perfect/perfection
- Better/more excellent/superior/greater

For further study, mark references to:

- Draw near
- Time

Based on Hebrews 7:1-19, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section flow logically from the chapter before?
2. What do you learn about Melchizedek (vs. 1-3)?
3. What specific story does the author remind his audience of in his discussion of Melchizedek (vs. 1-10)? Compare with Genesis 14:17-24.
4. What point about Melchizedek does the author want to establish (vs. 4)?
5. According to the law, which tribe received tithes (vs. 5)?
6. Based on this law, what was unusual about Melchizedek's receiving tithes from Abraham (vs. 6)?
7. List the evidence the author gives that demonstrates that Melchizedek was superior to both Abraham and the Levitical priests (vs. 6-10).
8. Based on these descriptions, what similarities do you notice between Melchizedek and Christ? Compare with Hebrews 5:5-6, 10.

9. Like Melchizedek, Jesus is superior to Abraham and to the Levitical priesthood. Based on the original audience, why do you think the author goes to such lengths to make this argument?
10. What question does the author ask next (vs. 11)? What kind of priest was needed?
11. What was unusual about Jesus' priesthood (vs. 12-14)?
12. On what basis did Jesus become a priest (vs. 15-19)? How is He better?

### **APPLICATION**

1. Why is it important that Jesus is both our Priest and our King? What is the significance of each of these roles?
2. How can you live in light of our "better hope...through which we draw near to God?" How is the way we draw near to God both similar and different from the way the Israelites drew near in the Old Testament (Hint: Think back to Leviticus)?
3. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 11 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 7:1-19 | Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 12

HEBREWS 7:20-28 | Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 7:20-28. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Priest/priesthood/high priest
- Better/more excellent/superior/greater
- Time references
- Sins

For further study, mark references to:

- Draw near

Based on Hebrews 7:20-28, answer the following questions:

1. How do these verses continue the author's train of thought in 7:1-19?
2. What guaranteed Jesus' priesthood (vs. 20-22)? What did this make Him (vs. 22)?
3. The author makes several contrasts between the Levitical priesthood and Christ's priesthood in this section (vs. 23-28). Write down as many as you can find below. Then write down the significance of each truth for your own life.
4. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 7?



**WEEK 12 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 7:20-28 | Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 13

HEBREWS 8 | Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 8. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Priest/priesthood/high priest
- Better/more excellent/superior/greater
- Covenant (you might distinguish between the first/Old Covenant and the New Covenant)

Based on Hebrews 8, answer the following questions:

1. How does this chapter logically flow from the argument in Chapter 7?
2. What is the author's point (vs. 1-2)?
3. How does the author continue to demonstrate that Jesus is a better high priest (vs. 1-5)? Specifically, what does he emphasize about Jesus' location?
4. What place does the author reference (vs. 4-5)? Compare with Exodus 25:8-9.
5. What "better than" comparisons do you find (vs. 6)? Compare with 7:22.
6. Look up the word for covenant in an English dictionary or the original language (see instructions at the beginning of the study). What does this word mean?
7. Why was a second covenant needed (vs. 7)?
8. The Old Covenant (the Law) was given on Mount Sinai in Exodus 20-24. Skim through these chapters and write down any observations if you have time.
9. What contrasts do you find between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant (vs. 8-12)? Write down as many as you can. Then compare with Jeremiah 31:31-34.
10. What happens to the Old Covenant because of the New Covenant (vs. 13)? Look up the definition of the word "obsolete).





**WEEK 13 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 8 | Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

## WEEK 14

HEBREWS 9:1-10:18 | Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Note: This week's passage is longer, so you might want to divide your study time into chapters or mark a few words each day. Making a list of what you learn from marking 1-2 key words is a helpful tool to meditate on the details of these longer chapters as well. The questions are separated by chapter and aim for a broader comprehension of main points.

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 9:1-10:18. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Holy Spirit
- Better/more excellent/superior/greater
- Offering/offer
- Sacrifices
- Blood
- Sins
- Holy
- Law
- Priest/priesthood

For further study, mark:

- Time references
- Covenant
- Worship

Based on Hebrews 9, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section flow logically from the section before?
2. What place does the author begin to describe (9:1-5)?
3. What process does he describe (9:6-10)?
4. What were the limitations of this place and process (9:1-10)?
5. How is Jesus better (9:11-14)? Write down all the "better than" comparisons you find.

6. What key aspect of covenant does the author discuss next (9:15-22)? What do you learn about the importance of blood?
7. How is Jesus better (9:23-28)? Write down all the “better than” comparisons you find.
8. How would you summarize the main point of Chapter 9?

Based on Hebrews 10:1-18, answer the following questions:

1. What do you learn about the limitations of the law and the offerings/sacrifices it commanded (10:1-4)?
2. What do you learn about the superior sacrifice/offering (10:5-14)? Write down as many contrasts as you can find.
3. Think carefully about Hebrews 10:11-14.
  - a. What contrast do you see between the position of the priests and Christ (vs. 11, vs. 12)?
  - b. Based on your knowledge of the tabernacle, what piece of furniture was, surprisingly, *not* in the tabernacle?
  - c. Why do you think the priests were always standing and never sitting? Compare Hebrews 10:12 and John 19:30.
  - d. How is Jesus better?
4. What is the result of Christ’s single offering of Himself (10:15-18)?

## APPLICATION

1. What did the Lord teach you about sin, cleansing, and salvation in this passage? Which truths were particularly impactful?
2. Where are you struggling with guilt, shame, fear, and sin in your life right now? Write down specific lies or sins you are wrestling with. How do the truths of Hebrews 9-10 speak into these struggles?
3. In what ways are you tempted to try to cleanse yourself through your own works and offerings? What freedom do the truths of Chapters 9-10 offer? How can you repent and trust that Christ alone takes away your sins?
4. How does Christ's offering of Himself for our salvation change the way we bring "offerings" of worship to God? What is the purpose of offering anything to God? Compare with Romans 12:1-2.
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 14 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 9:1-10:18 | Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 15

HEBREWS 10:19-39 | Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 10:19-39. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Draw near
- Let us
- Heart
- Faith
- Confidence

Based on Hebrews 10:19-39, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section relate to the previous verses in Hebrews 9-10?
2. In light of Christ's work, what does the author urge believers to do and how (vs. 19-22)? Write down each reason given that supports his exhortation.
3. What is the second exhortation you find (vs. 23)? Why can believers do this?
4. What is the third exhortation (vs. 24)? What warning does the author give (vs. 25)?
5. What does this warning show you about what might be tempting for believers to do?
6. What sobering warning does the author give in the next section (vs. 26-31)? What comparison does he make to show the severity of deliberately sinning against Christ?

7. What is the audience urged to remember and do (vs. 32-39)?
  
8. What two opposite paths are presented (vs. 38-39)? Does this comparison remind you of any other passages in Hebrews you've studied so far?

### **APPLICATION**

1. Consider the three exhortations in Hebrews 10:19-25. How can you obey each in your own life this week? Which is hardest for you, and what prevents you from walking in each?
  
2. Consider the warnings in this section. In what ways are you tempted to neglect biblical community? To minimize the severity of your sin and refuse repentance? How do you need to respond to God's call in these verses?
  
3. Are there any ways you're tempted to throw away or loosen your confidence in Jesus right now? How can you strengthen your grip of faith in Him? Where do you need community to walk alongside you in persevering in faith?
  
4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 15 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 10:19-39 | Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>



## WEEK 16

HEBREWS 11:1-22 | Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 11:1-22. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Better/more excellent/superior/greater
- Key people
- Faith
- Please(d)/Commended
- Promise

Based on Hebrews 11:1-22, answer the following questions:

1. How does this chapter flow logically from the end of Chapter 10?
  
2. What do you learn about faith (vs. 1-2, 6)?
  
3. The author walks through several time periods of the Old Testament in this chapter, providing examples of people who lived by faith in each. This week, we will cover only the first two time periods. Below, write down each person the author of Hebrews references and what you learn about them. You might find it helpful to highlight the action verbs that each person of faith “did” as a result of their faith in God. If you have time, feel free to look up the Old Testament references where each story is recorded and read more. Some references contain the entire story and others only key portions.
  - a. Primeval
    - i. Hebrews 11:3 (Genesis 1-2)
  
    - ii. Hebrews 11:4 (Genesis 4)
  
    - iii. Hebrews 11:5 (Genesis 5:22-24)
  
    - iv. Hebrews 11:7 (Genesis 6-9)

- b. Patriarchs
  - i. Hebrews 11:8-10 (Genesis 12:1-9)
  - ii. Hebrews 11:11-12 (Genesis 17:19, 18:11-14, 21:1-3)
  - iii. Hebrews 11:17-19 (Genesis 22)
  - iv. Hebrews 11:20 (Genesis 27)
  - v. Hebrews 11:21 (Genesis 48)
  - vi. Hebrews 11:22 (Genesis 50:24-25)
- 4. What does the author explain about these people of faith (vs. 13-16)?
- 5. What do you learn about faith from this chapter?
- 6. What “better than” comparison did you find?
- 7. Based on what you know about these people’s stories, were they perfect? What does this show you about a life of faith?

## APPLICATION

1. What are some wrong ways people talk about having a “life of faith” today? What are some wrong objects of faith we might trust? How does Hebrews 11 clarify what it means to live by faith in Christ?
2. Which stories and examples were particularly impactful for you? What encouragement can you draw from those who walked by faith long before you?
3. With these Old Testament believers, are you seeking a “better country” in heaven, or are you living for this world? In what ways are you most tempted to forget that we are strangers and exiles here?
4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 16 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 11:1-22 | Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

## WEEK 17

HEBREWS 11:23-40 | Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 11:23-40. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Better/more excellent/superior/greater
- Key people
- Faith
- Promise
- Suffering

Based on Hebrews 11:23-40, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section flow logically from the previous section?
  
2. The author continues to lead us through the “Hall of Faith.” Like last week, write down each person the author of Hebrews references and what you learn about them. You might find it helpful to highlight the action verbs that each person of faith “did” as a result of their faith in God. If you have time, feel free to look up the Old Testament references where each story is recorded and read more. Some references contain the entire story and others only key portions.
  - a. The Exodus
    - i. Hebrews 11:23 (Exodus 2:2-3)
  
    - ii. Hebrews 11:24-26 (Exodus 2:11-15, 5:1)
  
    - iii. Hebrews 11:27 (Exodus 12:37-42)
  
    - iv. Hebrews 11:28 (Exodus 12)
  
    - v. Hebrews 11:29 (Exodus 14:21-30)
  
  - b. The Conquest of the Promised Land
    - i. Hebrews 11:30 (Joshua 6)
  
    - ii. Hebrews 11:31 (Joshua 2, 6:22-25)

3. The author briefly mentions the time of the Judges and Kings. Who does he name from these time periods (vs. 32)?
4. What do you learn about what they did through faith (vs. 33-35)?
5. What do you learn about what they suffered because of their faith (vs. 35-38)?
6. Did these Old Testament people of faith ever see the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus (vs. 39-40)?

#### **APPLICATION**

1. Which stories and examples were particularly impactful for you? What encouragement can you draw from those who walked by faith long before you?
2. With these Old Testament believers, are you treasuring Christ as better than the “fleeting pleasures of sin” and the “treasures” of the world (see 11:25-26)? Where has the Lord convicted you this week?
3. What promises are New Testament believers still waiting for God to fulfill? What does this chapter teach us about persevering in faith, even when we experience suffering or do not see the fulfillment of a promise in our lifetime?
4. Write down several other people of faith in Scripture whose example encourages you. If you were adding them to the Hebrews 11 “Hall of Faith,” how would you describe them in just a sentence?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 17 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 11:23-40 | Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 18

HEBREWS 12:1-3 | Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 12:1-3. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Let us
- Faith
- Sin
- Endurance
- Therefore

Based on Hebrews 12:1-3, answer the following questions:

1. What important word begins this chapter? How do these verses build upon the previous chapter?
2. Who are believers surrounded by (vs. 1)? Based on the immediate context of Chapter 11, who do you think the author is referring to?
3. What two exhortations do you find next (vs. 1)?
4. What does the author want his audience to lay aside (vs. 1)?
5. Look up the definitions for the words *weight*, *sin*, and *clings so closely*. What do you learn?
6. What does the author urge his audience to do (vs. 2)? How?
7. Who are believers to look to as they run the race set before them (vs. 2)? What do you learn about Him in this verse?
8. Look up the definitions of *founder* and *perfector*. How do these meanings enhance your understanding? How do these titles for Jesus relate to Hebrews 11?
9. Why would looking to Jesus help believers endure (vs. 3)?



10. Compare Hebrews 12:1-3 with the following cross-references and note what you learn.

a. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

b. 2 Corinthians 5:7

c. Galatians 6:9

d. 1 Timothy 6:11-12

e. 2 Timothy 4:7

#### **APPLICATION**

1. How is your “race” of faith going? What sins and weights do you need to lay aside?

2. As you run the race of faith, are you looking *back* to the example of faithful believers before you, *up* to Jesus, and *forward* to the joy set before you? Which is most difficult for you? How can you fix your gaze on Jesus this week?

3. Do you ever feel alone in your faith? How are the truths about Jesus and His people in these verses an encouragement to you?

4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 18 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 12:1-3 | Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 19

HEBREWS 12:4-17 | Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 12:4-17. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Family language (sons, children, fathers)
- Discipline/reprove
- Therefore
- Commands

Based on Hebrews 12:4-17, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section flow logically from the verses before?
2. What does the author point out about the audience's fight against sin (vs. 4)? From the context of 12:3, what do you think his point is?
3. What question do you find next (vs. 5)?
4. What exhortation does the author not want his audience to forget (vs. 5-6)? How are God's children to respond to His discipline? Why?
5. This exhortation is quoted from Proverbs 3:11-12, where a father is instructing his son. What point is the author making by applying these verses to the audience of Hebrews?
6. What else do you learn about God's loving discipline of His children (vs. 7-11)?
7. How does God's discipline serve to assure our salvation (vs. 7-8)?
8. What subtle "better than" comparison do you find in this section (vs. 9)?
9. What is the outcome of God's discipline (vs. 10-11)?
10. How might this perspective on God's discipline build on the call to endurance in Hebrews 12:1-3?

11. What important word begins the next verse (vs. 12)? What exhortations and warnings do you find following the author's discussion of God's discipline (vs. 12-17)?

## **APPLICATION**

1. The word "discipline" can take on many connotations in our minds based on our own families, preferences, and cultural narratives. How do you tend to think about God's discipline? In this passage, what did God teach you that should shape how you think of and respond to His discipline?
2. Think of an example of God's refinement and discipline in your own life. What was this experience like? How did He grow you in holiness and righteousness?
3. How is God's loving discipline comforting for believers? What encouragement can you draw from this passage?
4. Consider the exhortations and warnings in this week's passage. How do you need to respond to each in your own life?
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 19 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 12:4-17 | Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>

**WEEK 20**

HEBREWS 12:18-29 | Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

**OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION**

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 12:18-29. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Kingdom
- Heaven/heavenly
- Earth
- Shaken
- Let us
- Worship

Based on Hebrews 12:18-29, answer the following questions:

1. How does this section relate to the prior passage?
  
2. The author begins to describe a key moment in Israel’s history. Write down the descriptions you find on the left side of the chart below (vs. 18-21).
  
3. What event do you think he is referring to? Compare with Exodus 19, Exodus 20:18-21, and Deuteronomy 5:22-28. Add any details you want to your chart.
  
4. What contrasting place does the author describe next (vs. 22-24)? Write down the descriptions on the right side of the chart below.

Hebrews 12:18-21 (Mount Sinai)	Hebrews 12:22-24 (Mount Zion)

5. What additional “better than” comparison do you find (vs. 24)?
  
6. Consider the story of Cain and Abel (Genesis 4), and what Abel’s blood “testified” of. Now think about what Christ’s blood “testifies” to. How does Jesus’ blood speak a “better word?”
  
7. What warning does the author offer next (vs. 25)?
  
8. How does he support the seriousness of his warning (vs. 25)?
  
9. Based on the context, when did God’s voice “shake the earth” at a previous time (vs. 26)? Compare with Exodus 19:18 to help with your answer.
  
10. At the end of Hebrews 12:26, the author quotes Haggai 2:6 and 21. What promise had God made (vs. 26)?
  
11. How does the author of Hebrews shed light into the meaning of this promise (vs. 27-28)?
  
12. How should God’s people respond (vs. 28-29)?
  
13. What overarching “better than” comparison do you see in Hebrews 12:18-29 (even though the phrase isn’t there)?

## APPLICATION

1. How should our lives today be shaped by the knowledge that we belong to the heavenly kingdom described in this passage? Compare with Hebrews 11:14-16.
2. What worldly promises of security and safety are you most tempted to trust? How is the unshakeable kingdom of Hebrews 12 a better hope?
3. Do you tend to approach the Lord with reverence and awe, or have you made your relationship with God too casual? What does obedience to the closing exhortation of this chapter look like for you (vs. 28-29)?
4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?



**WEEK 20 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 12:18-29 | Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

**WEEK 21**

HEBREWS 13:1-19 | Monday May 20<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

**OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION**

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 13:1-19. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus
- Let us
- Commands

For further study, mark:

- Love
- Faith
- Sacrifice

Based on Hebrews 13:1-19, answer the following questions:

1. How does this chapter flow logically from the section before?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What overarching command begins this chapter (vs. 1)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. To conclude his message, the author provides a series of commands and exhortations, calling his audience to rightly respond to the truths of the previous 12 chapters. Next to each reference, write the details of each command and the reason given for each (if there is one). Be sure to consider the verses before and after each command for context.

Reference	Command	Reason
Hebrews 13:2		
Hebrews 13:3		
Hebrews 13:4		

Reference	Command	Reason
Hebrews 13:5-6		
Hebrews 13:7-8		
Hebrews 13:9-12		
Hebrews 13:13-14		
Hebrews 13:15		
Hebrews 13:16		
Hebrews 13:17		
Hebrews 13:18-19		

4. Looking back over your chart, what categories/areas of life do these commands address? How do these commands show us what brotherly love in the family of God looks like?

## APPLICATION

1. What does this chapter show you about the impact of the gospel on every aspect of our lives? Consider also Hebrews 11 and the transformation these men and women of faith experienced.
2. Which commands are most convicting or difficult for you? Why? In what areas of your life do you need to repent and change?
3. Which commands and reminders are most encouraging for you? Why?
4. Think about one or more believers whose faith you want to imitate. “Consider the outcome of their way of life” (Hebrews 13:7). Which exhortations in this chapter are they particularly faithful in? Reach out to them if possible and thank them for their example of trusting and obeying Jesus.
5. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 21 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 13:1-19 | Monday May 20<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

## WEEK 22

HEBREWS 13:20-25 | Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

### OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

Begin in prayer, and then read Hebrews 13:20-25. As you read, mark references to:

- God the Father
- Jesus

Based on Hebrews 13:20-25, answer the following questions:

1. How do these final verses of the letter flow logically from the verses before?
2. What blessing does the author pray for his audience (vs. 20-21)?
3. What truths do you learn about God the Father and Jesus in these verses (vs. 20-21)?
4. Read the following cross references and note what else you learn about Jesus as our Shepherd.
  - a. Psalm 23
  - b. John 10:11
  - c. 1 Peter 5:4
  - d. Revelation 7:13-17
5. Read the following cross references and write down what you learn about how believers are equipped to do God's will.
  - a. 2 Corinthians 9:8
  - b. Philippians 2:12-13
  - c. Colossians 1:9-12

d. 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

e. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

6. How does the author conclude the letter (vs. 22-25)?

### **APPLICATION**

1. What can you learn from the prayer at the end of this book? How might you pray this prayer specifically for yourself and others?
2. In what areas of your life do you need to remember that God equips us with everything good that we may do His will? Where are you striving in your own strength?
3. What are your key takeaways from the book of Hebrews? How has the Lord shaped and changed you through this series?
4. What struck you about the superiority and beauty of Jesus this week? How should you respond?

**WEEK 22 SERMON NOTES**

HEBREWS 13:20-25 | Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>



*Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

*Hebrews 13:20-21*