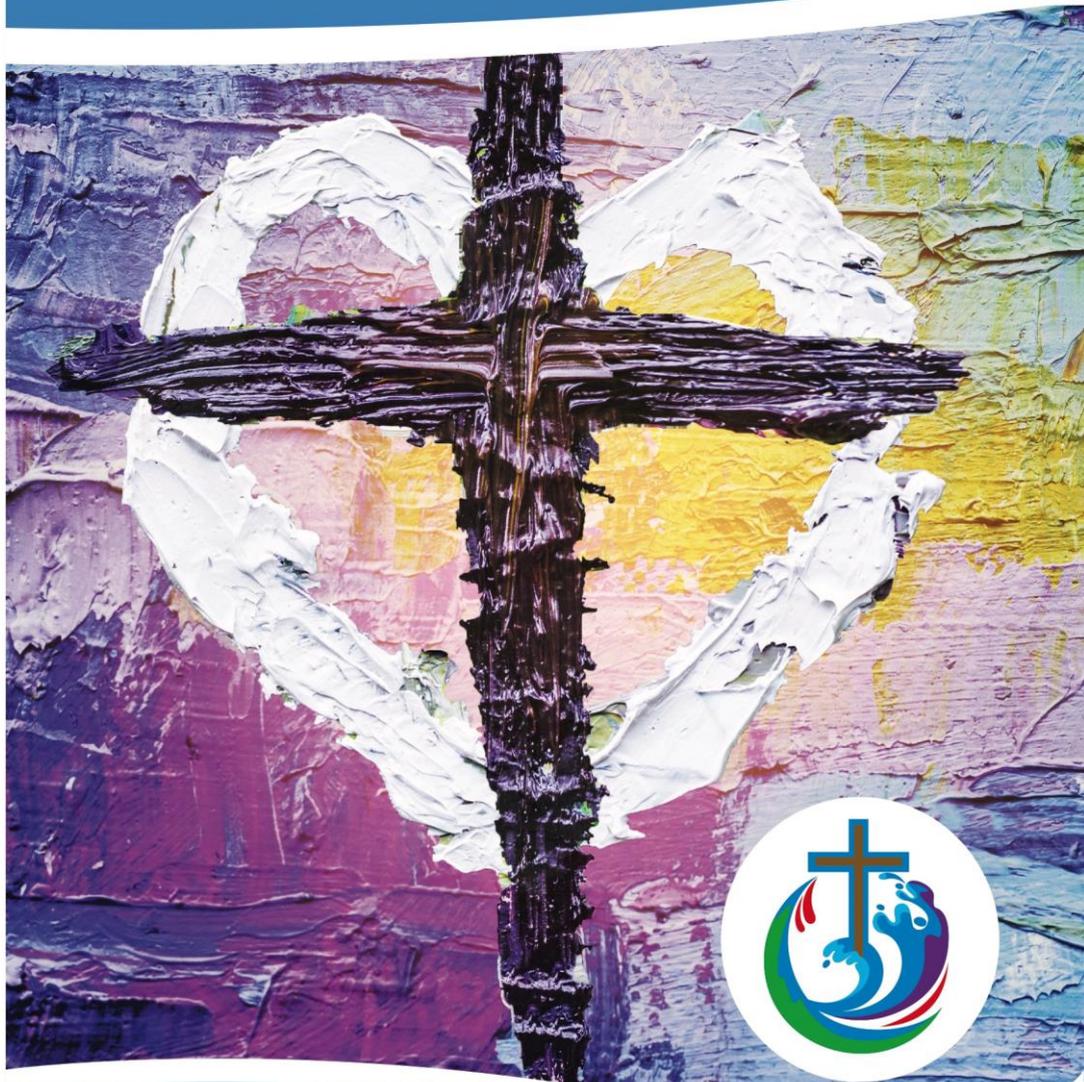


# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST



**A HEART FOR GOD  
A HEART FOR PEOPLE**

A study of Hebrews





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# INTRODUCTION

This is the third study in the series of Bible Studies about the heart of God. We discovered who this amazing God is. God decided to reveal Himself in the Old Testament through His prophets, but Hebrews 1:2 says: *“but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.”*

Jesus is the language of God – when God speaks to us now, He speaks in the vocabulary of Jesus. Therefore, we must learn from Him and draw closer to Him to understand God, the Father. Jesus is the theme of the book of Hebrews and His magnificence is presented on every page.

The message of the book of Hebrews can be summed up in three words, **"Christ is better."**

- Christ is better than the angels who revealed the first covenant (Hebrews 1:1-2:18).
- Christ is better than Moses who was the mediator of the first covenant (Hebrews 3:1-19).
- Christ was better than Joshua (Hebrews 4:1-13).
- Christ is a better priest than the Aaronic priests of Judaism.

- Christ offers a better sacrifice.
- He is a better tabernacle.
- He is a better altar.
- His priestly work is superior to that of the Old Testament (Roger Hahn, 2016).

Someone said that Jesus Christ came from the bosom of the Father to the bosom of a woman. He put on humanity that we might put on divinity. He became Son of Man that we might become sons of God. He was born contrary to the laws of nature, lived in poverty, was reared in obscurity, and only once crossed the boundaries of the land in which He was born—and that in His childhood.

He had no wealth or influence and had neither training nor education in the world's schools. His relatives were inconspicuous and not influential.

In infancy He startled a king. In boyhood He puzzled the learned doctors. In manhood He ruled the course of nature. He walked upon the billows and hushed the sea to sleep. He healed the multitudes without medicine and made no charge for His services. He never wrote a book and yet all the libraries of the world could not hold the books about Him. He never wrote a song, yet He furnished the theme for more songs than all songwriters together. He never founded a college, yet all the schools

together cannot boast of as many students as He had. He never practiced medicine and yet He has healed more broken hearts than all the doctors have healed broken bodies.

This Jesus Christ is the star of astronomy, the rock of geology, the lion and the lamb of zoology, the harmonizer of all discord, and the healer of all diseases. Throughout history, great men have come and gone, yet He lives on. Herod could not kill Him. Satan could not seduce Him. Death could not destroy Him. And the grave could not hold Him (*MacArthur 2007*).

When studying Hebrews, please remember it is a divinely inspired book. Therefore, read it with a hunger and a passion to understand the depth of this book.

Soli Deo Gloria!  
To God alone all the glory!



# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **1**

## Jesus: the image of God

**Memory verse:**

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.*

*Hebrews 1:3(a)*





## Day 1:

# Jesus : the image of God

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

Who do you believe Jesus is and why?

.....  
.....

**Read Hebrews 1:1-4**

Write down your emotions and thoughts about these verses.

.....  
.....

Christ is the pure revelation of God, the embodiment of all truth, and more. God has fully and completely expressed Himself in Christ. (*MacArthur. 2007*)

Christ has fully revealed God. We come to know God and know about God from Christ. There is no source of knowledge about God as reliable as Christ. (*Hahn. 2016*)  
No fuller nor more complete revelation of God can be or ever will be made.

**Radiance** literally means light or heat as emitted or reflected by something. **Glorify** – (*doxa* from *dokeo* = to think) means to give a proper opinion or estimate of something and thus the glory of God expresses all that He is in His Being and in His nature, character, power and acts. *Doxa* is used repeatedly in the Greek Septuagint (LXX) to describe the (Shekinah) glory of God.

Do you want to know what God says? Listen to Jesus. Do you want to know what God does? Watch Jesus. He is God incarnate in man. (*Hunt. Precept Austin*)

**Read John 1:1-4 and 18**

What does these verses teach you about Jesus?

.....  
.....

John describes Jesus as "the Word (Who) became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14-note). John went on to say that "No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him." (John 1:18-note)

The Greek word for explained is *exegeomai*. It means that Jesus as the God Man provides detailed information in a systematic manner about the glory of the Father. Therefore, when we look at Jesus, we see God. Jesus is the only way we can understand God.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# Jesus the exact representation of God's being

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 1:1-4 and Colossians 1:15-16**

Jesus illuminates the glory of God and enables us to see God in his glory. However, there is more: Christ is also "the exact representation of God's being." The New Testament often describes Jesus as the image of God, but Hebrews goes further and describes Jesus as God's exact representation. The Greek word (*character*) refers to the mark left by a stamp. That mark was the exact representation or the exact imprint of the stamp. If we could imagine the very being of God as a rubber stamp, the mark left by that stamp of God's very being is Christ. Nothing can be more like the original mould or seal than the image pressed out on the clay or wax; the one carrying the very form or features of the other.

What does the following verses teach us about Jesus being the exact representation of His Father?

John 14:9	
Colossians 1:15	

He who had seen Jesus had seen the Father, because Jesus is the exact representation, the exact expression of the Father's attributes, nature, etc.

Charles Spurgeon said: *“Whatever God is, Christ is. The very likeness of God, the very Godhead of Godhead, the very Deity of Deity, is in Christ Jesus.”*

To glorify God is to believe that God is worthy to be glorified, because of His unlimited greatness and holiness.

How does one live (develop) a holy life, glorifying God?

.....  
.....

Human beings are showing his glory, because we are created in his image. By glorifying God, we make Him look gloriously trustworthy.

John Piper says: *The glory of God is the manifest beauty of His holiness. It is the going public of His holiness. The glory of God is the holiness of God made obvious. The glory of God is the endless beauty and greatness of his manifold perfections. And the whole creations shout out the glory of God. You were made to glorify Him.*

When people look at you, do they see the glory of God?

.....  
.....

Are you experiencing the transformation into the image of God, through the Spirit, in your life?

.....  
.....

The original glory of God belongs to Him. Jesus is God's glory; therefore, we see with amazing clarity that the glory of God consists not in crushing men and reducing them to abject servitude, but in serving them and loving them and in the end dying for them. It is not the glory of shattering power but the glory of suffering love.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 3:

# Jesus sustains all things

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 1:3-4 and Colossians 1:17-20**

In what way did God speak to us through His Son?

.....  
.....

What important place does Jesus Christ take in now?

.....  
.....

What does it mean to you?

.....  
.....

The early Church held the belief that the Son had been God's agent in creation, that in some way God had originally created the world through him. They were filled with the thought that the One who had created the world would also be the One who redeemed it. The sustaining power belongs to Jesus. These early Christians had a tremendous grip on the doctrine of providence. They did not think of God as creating the world and then leaving it

to itself. They saw a power that was carrying the world and each life on to a destined end.

You may be experiencing trials and tribulations that are leading you to believe that Jesus is in control of most but not all things (especially not your trials!), but that is fiction not fact! The fact remains that even in the painful times, He is in control. Whatever you are experiencing, remember that you have not yet seen the end of the story of your life! Hold on to Jesus -- you can be sure He is holding on to you (whether you "feel" like it or not)!

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 4:

# The majesty of Christ

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 1:5-14, Psalm 2:7 and 2 Samuel 7:14**

What does the following verses teach us about the superiority of Jesus?

<b>Hebrews</b>	<b>OT Quote</b>	<b>Proof that ...</b>
Hebrews 1:5	Psalm 2:7	
Hebrews 1:5	2 Samuel 7:14	
Hebrews 1:6	Psalm 97:7	
Hebrews 1:7	Psalm 104:4	
Hebrews 1:8,9	Psalm 45:6-7	
Hebrews 1:10-12	Psalm 102:25-27	
Hebrews 1:13	Psalm 110:1	

**Read Matthew 18:10 and Luke 15:10.**

What place does the angels take in God's plan with man?

.....  
.....

Angels are spirits in divine service. They are sent by God as servants or slaves because of the ones who are about to inherit salvation. Not only is Christ superior to the angels, they are servants, not beneficiaries, of the plan of salvation. Angels exist for our sake and we exist for Christ's sake. (*Roger Hahn. 2016*)

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 5:

### Do not drift away

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 2:1-4**

Why should we hold so much stronger onto what we have heard? (verse 1)

.....  
.....

What happens if you ignore the message of God? (verse 3)

.....  
.....

It is God's will that we hold fast to what we have heard. Failure to do so could lead to drifting. The word used here, comes from the world of sailing. The ship must be firmly anchored, or it will drift in the breeze, lose its mooring, and eventually be destroyed on some rocky shore far from the harbour.

The word "neglect" literally means to become unconcerned. The application to contemporary Christianity is clear. Lack of concern, apathy, lack of

intense commitment is the plague of our churches and our lives. There will come a time in the drifting when it is too late to anchor the soul again. The current will have become swift and our lack of concern will have let us drift past the point of return. That does not mean that God can reach a point that He can't rescue us, but that we get to a point that we are disconnected from Christ and unable to stop the inevitable consequences.

What activities and disciplines could help you not to drift away from what you have heard?

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Write a brief prayer asking the Lord to help you incorporate those disciplines into your life so that you can stay true to Christ and grow in his grace.

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**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.*

*Hebrews 1:3(a)*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 1:1-4, Colossians 1:15-20, Psalm 2:8-9 and Hebrews 2:1-4

## Discussion questions

What does it mean that God “has in these last days spoken to us by His Son?”

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List the characteristics or activities of Christ according to Hebrews 1:1-4 and Colossians 1:15-20. What overall picture of Christ emerges?

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Read Colossians 1:15-18 and Psalm 2:8-9. What does it mean that Christ has been appointed heir of all things? What does it mean for us today?

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.....

Read Hebrews 2:1-4. What warning is there for us and our church? What keeps us from drifting away from God and how can we stop drifting away from Him?

.....  
.....  
.....

**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **2**

## Jesus : the author of salvation

**Memory verse:**

*But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.*

**Hebrews 2:9**





## Day 1:

# The need for Salvation

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Matthew 4:17, John 3:16-18 and Romans 3:22-23**

Do you think we need salvation? Motivate your answer.

.....  
.....

Sin puts an impassable barrier between us and the spiritual blessings God offers. We cannot go over that barrier or around, under, or through it. The only way to receive God's blessings is for that barrier of sin to be destroyed, and the only power in existence to destroy it is the blood of Jesus.

What is the wages of sin?

.....  
.....

Very early on in His ministry, Jesus shows that He was thoroughly aware of how necessary He is to Salvation.

**Read Matthew 4:7 and John 3:16-18.**

What do these verses teach you about the role of Jesus in your salvation?

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.....  
.....

All access to the Father and all hope of a relationship with the Creator of all things rests in Jesus Christ. This is because the Father has delegated all things pertaining to His purpose to the Son.

Any religion can offer salvation and rewards for a life well lived. However, only one religion, regardless of how high-minded and appealing to a person's hopes and dreams, has Jesus Christ as its Saviour and centre-piece of truth. That religion is Christianity. This fact eliminates all other religions as of little value in terms of a person dedicating his life to observing their teachings.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# Jesus became a true human – for our sins

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 2:5-9 and Psalm 8**

In Hebrews 2:6-8 a part of Psalm 8 is cited. To whom did God subject everything (including the future world)?

.....  
.....

**Read Hebrews 2:9**

Who is the true person in whom Psalm 8 is fulfilled? Why?

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.....

God has prepared the world for us in a very special way. However, we gave ourselves over to sin and started following Satan. Because of our disobedience and the resulting curse of death placed on us, we can never experience what is said of us in Psalm 8:4-8, which the author of Hebrews refers to here.

Why was Jesus crowned with honour and glory? (Verse 9)

.....  
.....

Jesus suffered death and gained victory for us. It is always first the cross and then the crown of glory. It is because of His suffering and death that Jesus is now crowned with glory and honour.

Jesus is the true man. He was what no other being ever was: at the same time true God and true, righteous man. In Jesus, God's promises have gained a new meaning and fulfilment.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 3:

# Jesus saves His brothers and sisters

Begin the study by spending time in prayer.

Read Hebrews 2:10-13,

For what purpose did Jesus become our “forerunner” (pioneer)?

.....  
.....

Read verse 11. Who does Jesus call His brothers and sisters?

.....  
.....

Read verses 14 and 15. Why, according to these verses, did Jesus become human?

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.....

Jesus is the One who makes men holy. The path to sanctification lies in obedience to doing God's will, and that obedience is to be given out of gratitude because

you understand and know the Father and Son through an intimate relationship.

Any religion that is without Christ leaves the door open to thoughts that salvation can be earned by means of good works. The idea is that the evil an individual has done in the past can be compensated for by doing good deeds.

However, Salvation is found through no other person and no other way of life except through the sacrifice of Jesus of Nazareth. This is only true for those who are God's children through the new birth, for those who believe in His name (John 1:12-13).

Despite our many sins and shortcomings, Jesus is not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters. We should not be ashamed to proclaim Him as our Saviour and Lord in this evil world, even if it results in persecution for us. Even if we die for our faith, we have a sure hope of being with Him throughout eternity.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 4:

# Jesus disarms the devil



**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 2:14-16, John 8:44**

Some religions make no mention of the devil as a reality. Others include him as a reality and enemy, yet they give little or no account of him actively working to destroy mankind and God's purpose. Jesus makes no bones about the devil actively working to destroy men.

What does Jesus say about the devil and what he does, in John 8:44?

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.....

Are you afraid of dying? Why?

.....  
.....

The devil has power in the realm of death and incites people to sin and come under its power. Fear of death is a natural fear for sinful people. We know: "The wages of sin is death." Therefore, you must be ready to meet God, as death is inevitable.

**Read Hebrews 2:14-15.**

What does the author mean by these verses? How far did Jesus have to go to set you free from enslavement to the devil?

.....  
.....

God knows what it is like to live in your skin. Not just because He made you, though He did; not just because He knit you together in your mother's womb, though He did; but because in His Son He has taken on our flesh and blood.

Do you understand that Jesus didn't just come and walk a mile in your shoes? When Jesus became human for you, He took on your flesh and blood forever. Because we were dead in sin and because we were enslaved to Satan, Jesus died to destroy death and set us free. Have you ever wondered how far Jesus had to go to set us free from enslavement to Satan and to death which is the wages of sin? He had to go all the way through temptation to suffering to death and back. That's how far He had to go.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 5:

# Jesus' humanity makes Him equal to us

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 2:17-18**

Christ assumes human nature and makes it His own. What does this mean to you?

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The suffering of Christ was necessary to qualify Him as a merciful high priest. This is the first mention in Hebrews of Christ as our high priest.

What was Jesus' task as high priest?

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The task of the high priest in the Old Testament, was to make atonement for the sins of the people. No sinful man could ever bring an offering to propitiate the holy wrath of God. Everything that sinful man touches defiles it. Therefore, the high priest had to make atonement on a regular basis. Only a holy God could possibly offer a

sacrifice sufficient to atone for sin and make sinners acceptable to God.

How do we know that Jesus can truly help us as a high priest?

.....  
.....

Read verse 18. What message does this verse contain regarding temptation?

.....  
.....

Jesus knows how to help you in temptation and suffering. Not theoretically, not academically, but personally. He has lived as a human being. He knows what it is like to be fully human in a fallen world and He knows how to help you. Now Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God and this means that our God understands the temptations and sufferings that we face intimately.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.*

*Hebrews 2:9*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 2:5-18, Matthew 12:50, Psalm 103:14 and 1 Corinthians 10:13

## Discussion questions

Read Hebrews 2:10-18. What reasons do you find for the fact that Jesus had to become human like us?

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.....

Why does Jesus not shy away from calling believers His brothers and sisters? (Refer to Matthew 12:50)

.....  
.....

What did Jesus deliver us from?

.....  
.....

What guarantee do we have, as children of God, that God will help us endure? (Refer to Psalm 103:14 and 1 Corinthians 10:13)

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.....  
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.....

**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **3**

## Jesus : example of faith and obedience

**Memory verse:**

*See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.*

*Hebrews 3:13*





## Day 1:

# Jesus higher than Moses

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 3:1-6, Numbers 12:5-7, 1 Corinthians 3:16 and Romans 5:1-2**

It may seem strange that Christ is compared with Moses. However, this is more than just a comparison. Moses has been an example and motivation for believers over the ages.

What does it mean to be set apart for the Lord and have a heavenly calling?

.....  
.....

Who or what was the "house of God" to which Moses was faithful?

.....  
.....

Are we also part of "the house of God"? Why?

.....  
.....  
.....

Moses was faithful as a servant of God, but Moses was just a servant, pointing ahead to the heir, who is Jesus. Without in any way demeaning the faithfulness of Moses, who was a great leader; the author of Hebrews is saying: “Jesus is in a totally different class! Moses was a faithful leader in God’s house, but Jesus built the house.”

People who are set apart for God – who are His children – are part of His house. Christ is their Apostle and High Priest. He is more honourable than Moses who was faithful to God in the dispensation of the old covenant. Jesus is the great prophet and high priest of the new covenant.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# Listen to the Holy Spirit!

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 3:7-11 and Exodus 17:1-7**

There is a proverb that says: “One has two ears and one mouth. Therefore, you must listen double as much as talk!”

What was one of the most prominent characteristics of the Israelites while they were in the desert?

.....  
.....

Israel was blessed beyond any other nation. God was their King, He promised them land and He provided for them. How did they react to the way God provided for them?

.....  
.....

How does verse 10 describe their sin?

.....  
.....

How does God react to their sin?

.....  
.....

The Israelites tested God's patience. God would like to have a mutual relationship between Him and His people. But people who do not want to live in this beautiful relationship with Him are eliminated by their stubborn and hard-hearted ways.

**Read Psalm 95:7-11.** The author of Hebrews quotes this passage when he warns that we should listen to what the Holy Spirit says.

In what ways are you sometimes stubborn?

.....  
.....

Hearing is one thing, listening is something else. No one is as deaf as he who does not want to hear. To really listen, means to act on what you hear. The Holy Spirit is warning us not to be stubborn, but to listen to what the Lord says. God's words and deeds must be taken seriously. Get to know God's ways and bow before Him.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 3:

### Look at yourself

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 3:12, Proverbs 4:23 and Jeremiah 17:9**

What warning does verse 12 issue to the readers?

.....  
.....

The author of Hebrews is concerned that his readers may wither under affliction or persecution. They were in danger of going back to a more comfortable life in their old Jewish religion because of the imminent threat of persecution in their newfound Christian faith. He is warning us against the soul-destroying sin of hardness of heart. He is saying to avoid hardness of heart, we must submit our hearts to God's Word and God's ways, especially in times of trial.

What does a "sinful, unbelieving heart" mean? Do you think it is possible for believers to have a "heart" problem? Why?

.....  
.....  
.....

Every believer has the responsibility to ensure that they do not have a wrong attitude. It is usually caused by a rebellious heart turning away from the Lord. Such an attitude comes down to deliberate contempt of God. You have come to know God, but you still prefer your own will over His.

Other people cannot see your heart, experience your deepest feelings and read your true emotions. What really matters between you and the Lord, is only known to Him and you.

Take time to examine your own heart and your attitude towards God. What do you need to change?

.....  
.....

Take time to listen to the song: Change my heart oh God. Make this your prayer for today.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 4:

### Look after each other

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 3:13 and 2 Timothy 3:14-17**

What does verse 13 warn us about?

.....  
.....

Christians need to beware of the spiritual danger of unbelief. God has done nothing to deserve His people not trusting in Him. However, in Hebrews 3 we read that the people of God have set their desires on something else and they have stopped trusting in Him and that leads away from their saving relationship with the Lord.

What tasks do the believers receive in verse 13?

.....  
.....

The author of Hebrews tells us what we need to do for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. When the Lord gives you a relationship with another believer and you see that believer struggling — if you are a parent relating to a child, if you are a friend relating to a friend —

the Lord gives you a divine opportunity in that relationship to be a spiritual encouragement to that believer and to call them back from the brink. Faith is not a private matter – the whole congregation is responsible for the spiritual wellbeing of one another.

**Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17**

What encouragement do we find in these verses?

.....  
.....  
.....

As a Christian, you need to call your brothers and sisters, especially those with whom you are close, to accountability to walk in Christ. Ask Father to show you someone that you need to encourage and help to stay true to the faith.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 5:

### Endure to the end

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 3:14-19, Psalm 95:7-8; Numbers 14:20-23 and John 3:36**

In what should we persevere according to verse 14?  
Why?

.....  
.....

Endurance in faith strengthens believers against the dangers of sin and unbelief. The “sharing” in Christ (benefitting from His High priestly work) is not something that will come about in the future. It has already become the case. Holding firmly to faith in God, despite day-by-day struggles, reflects the status we have already gained.

Read verse 15. What does the word “today” say about the urgency of the author’s teaching?

.....  
.....

We need to respond in faith to God when He speaks to us. We cannot ignore His message.

Why did a lot of people die in the desert, according to verse 17?

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What is God's "rest? Why would the people not go into God's "rest" according to verse 18-19?

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The wilderness generation of Israelites had a clear opportunity to believe God's word because God gave them full exposure to His power and promise, but they disobeyed and were judged.

The lesson in this, is the need for endurance in faith. Talk to Father about your faith and your struggle for endurance.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.*

*Hebrews 3:13*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 3:1-6, 13-19, Psalm 95:7-11

## Discussion questions

In Hebrews 3:1-6, Jesus' work as a high priest is compared to that of Moses. Moses was a faithful priest for the people. In what ways does the work that Jesus did exceed that of Moses?

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In Hebrews 3:2-5 there is a reference to the "house of God". What does this refer to?

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What does the "house of God" in verse 6 refer to? What does that refer to? And what does it mean to you?

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As believers we need to encourage each other to endure in our faith. How can we do that? Be practical with your suggestions.

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**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **4**

## Jesus : the perfect High Priest

**Memory verse:**

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest  
who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of  
God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.*

*Hebrews 4:14*





## Day 1:

# The role of the high priest

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 4:14 and 5:1-4**

How do you understand the term "High Priest?"

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In the Bible, a priest's main responsibility was to serve God on behalf of the people. God had separated the priests' families from the rest of the nation so that they could do that. The high priests had special responsibilities. There was a special ceremony to appoint him and he continued to be high priest for the rest of his life.

The high priest's most important duty was to carry out the annual atonement for the sins of Gods' people (Leviticus 16). That day is called Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement. That annual ceremony made it possible for Gods' people to have a right relationship with God. (See Hebrews 9:7). To do that, the high priest passed through the temple to the most holy place.

How do you think Jesus acts as our high priest?

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Jesus passed through the heavens and He took his own blood into the most holy place in heaven. He did that so that God can forgive our sins. (See Hebrews 9:24-28).

The good news is that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice. There is nothing that God considers more valuable than the death of his Son. When Jesus entered the most holy place in heaven, God accepted his gift. Then God, the Father, gave his Son the most important place in heaven. Jesus sits at the Father's right hand (Hebrews 1:3).

The idea of a high priest is foreign to us, but the Israelites understood what the role of the priest was. The Israelites knew that they were incomplete, that they had sinned, they were blemished. The high priest's role was that of a mediator. They mediated by offering sacrifices, which were without blemish, on behalf of the Israelites as an atonement, as compensation for their sins. God then accepted the sacrifice and forgave them their transgressions.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2: Perfect Jesus

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 4:14 and Hebrews 7:26-28**

Why is Jesus the perfect High Priest?

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Jesus is the Son of God. He is the eternal God, and He has finished His work as Messiah and as our High Priest by means of His suffering, atonement and resurrection. He identified with us and paid for our sins. Through Christ we have redemption, life, and purpose. Christ is the eternal Son and He has always been the Son of God

What does it mean to you that Jesus “passed through the heavens”?

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Once a year, on the Day of Atonement, the Jewish High Priest goes to the holy of holiest place. He enters by passing in front of the people to go into the Temple. He goes through the outer court, then the Temple’s main

building to go into the inner sanctum. Here the writer uses this imagery to refer to Christ being raised from the dead, ascending to heaven and sitting at the right hand of God. Here He eternally ministers to the universe and serves as our High Priest. He performs the final perfect eternal and perpetual sacrifice, accomplishing the redemption of humanity.

We can trust Christ even in dire circumstances or in times of pain. Stand firm in your faith. We are exposed to God. He knows our sins and weaknesses and is still merciful. Thus, we can trust Him and confess to Him and live a life of faith in and for Him.

Listen prayerfully to the song: Jesus Messiah by Chris Tomlin.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 3:

# Jesus understands



**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 4:15 and Matthew 4:1-11**

How does the fact that Jesus knows what you go through encourages you?

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Jesus understands our weakness. Although He is always God, He became completely man. And daily, He knows the same kind of problems and difficulties that we suffer. He felt these things in his own mind and body. Only in His human form can He can truly sympathise with our weaknesses.

There is one difference between Jesus and us. All of us sin. In other words, all do bad and wrong things that are against God's law. Sometimes we fail the test of loyalty to God. But Jesus never did. Because Jesus obeyed God completely. His work as our high priest was completely successful. He dealt with all our sin.

What are some of the trials which Jesus faced?

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**Read: Hebrews 2:18 and Matthew 27:27-31**

Jesus was not someone who talked much about his own feelings. But the Gospels tell us about some of the things that He suffered. He had the same troubles that are part of everyone's worldly experience. He knew what it means to be tired (Mark 4:38) and hungry (Matthew 4:2). He lived in a hot, dry country and sometimes He was desperate for water to drink. He felt extreme strain and people were often trying to kill him. He had many enemies.

Jesus suffered all these troubles. Therefore, He qualifies to be our High Priest. Only a man can act on behalf of other men and women as their high priest. Only another human being can know how difficult it can seem.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 4:

### Be careful

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 4:15 and Luke 21:34-36.**

What are the weaknesses which these passages of Scripture are talking about?

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Temptations are something we cannot escape or avoid; they are all around us and get worse as time goes on because our culture becomes more and more decadent. Yet, Jesus knows our reality and in this, we are called to have strong faith in and reverence for Christ. This reverence should be visible and practical, because what we get is vastly more than what we think we are leaving behind. Jesus will save us; guide us through bad times; He will help us and even forgive us. He will give us faith and resources to avoid temptations and overcome past hurts and failings. We must allow Him to do so! The key is our focus! We have a Great High Priest who intercedes for us; who loves, cares, and is more than kind to us. To you! See His mercy and compassion! See His work and

go to Him with the confidence of faith; leaving behind what hurts and tempts you.

What trials, temptations and troubles are you facing at this moment? What can we do to avoid temptations?

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**Read Philippians 4:8-9 and Mark 14:38**

Rick Warren said the following, *"Every time you defeat a temptation, you become more like Jesus!"* Temptation is not a sin. Succumbing to temptation is. We can avoid sin by avoiding the temptation to sin. Jesus avoided sin by not succumbing to temptation. Let us hold on to God's Word. Let us be fertile soil by allowing God's Word to land in our hearts where it may grow and produce the likeness of Christ.

Can you imagine how Hebrew 4:14-15 sounded to the unbelieving Jews in his audience? They knew God as holy, righteous, perfect, and all-powerful. How could God experience weakness, testing, trials, and temptation? How could their God sympathize with them? They had no personal relationship with Him. The law forbids them

from ever being in His presence. Yet, the writer of Hebrews was telling them that Jesus, the Son of God, desired a personal relationship with them and identified with them in every area of their lives. His teaching was revolutionary.

When you face a trial or temptation; when you feel weak and trapped; unable to stand strong, remember Jesus. He is your personal Saviour. He suffered and died for you. He battled Satan in the wilderness and won. He fought for you then, and he fights for you now.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 5:

# Approach Jesus

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 4:14-16 and 5:7**

How would you describe the throne of grace to someone? What does it mean to approach the throne of grace with confidence?

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John Piper wrote: *“Because we have a great High Priest, the throne of God is a throne of grace. And the help we get at that throne is mercy and grace to help in time of need. Grace to help! Not deserved help — gracious help.”*

God planned for a High Priest, a Saviour, a Redeemer, a gracious Helper. You are not trapped. We need help. We don't deserve it, but we can have it. You can have it right now and forever. When we pray, we can be confident, because our high priest is Jesus, the King who sits on the throne in heaven, next to God the Father. He has the place of greatest honour in heaven or earth. Nobody is greater than he is.

The description of His throne is not a place of terror, because Christ receives us with grace and kindness. Christ's throne, which we approach by prayer, is a place of kindness.

It is from that place that Christ acts to help us. That help comes at the proper time. It may not come immediately when we request it. That is why we need faith. We would not need any faith if God always answered our prayers immediately. God wants us to continue to trust him. The author of Hebrews emphasises that fact often (Hebrews 3:6; Hebrews 6:12; Hebrews 10:35-39). We may have to wait and sometimes, we wait for a very long time, but God does not disappoint anyone. In the end, He will do everything that He has promised.

Rewrite Hebrews 4:14-16 using "I" and "me" in place of "we." Read it aloud. Spend some time praising God for what He has done for you.

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**Picture the throne of grace.**

**See yourself approaching it.**

**Thank God that He has forgiven you and that you can approach His presence with boldness.**

**Spend time enjoying God's presence.**



## GROUP STUDY:

### Prayer

#### Memory verse:

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.*

*Hebrews 4:14*

#### Reflection:

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### Scripture Reading:

Read Hebrews 4:14-16, Hebrews 5:17 and Matthew 4:1-11

## Discussion questions

In what way is Christ and the priests of the Old Testament alike? How are they different from each other?

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In how many ways were Christ tempted? Describe His trials and tribulations.

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What must we do when we are tempted? How can we overcome temptations and trials?

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How do we confidently approach the throne of grace? What will we find at that throne?

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**Close in prayer**



# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **5**

## Jesus : the perfect sacrifice

**Memory verse:**

*For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever  
those who are being made holy.*

*Hebrews 10:14*







## Day 1:

# What is a sacrifice?

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 9:11-15 and 5:1-5**

List the qualifications for the Great High Priest. (If you want to dig deeper read Exodus Chapter 28 and Numbers 25:10-13).

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Jesus Christ replaced the Old Covenant. It is therefore no longer necessary for a priest to offer animal sacrifices. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice. People provided the sacrifice whereas God provided His only Son as the sacrifice. The high priest had to sacrifice the sin offering year after year on behalf of the people, The animal sacrifices were temporary. Jesus offered Himself once and for all. Jesus is permanent, He is eternal.

Tim Keller said: *“Jesus was the temple to end all temples, the priest to end all priests and the sacrifice to end all sacrifices.”*

What things were accomplished by the blood of Jesus and how was His sacrifice different from all prior sacrifices?

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Blood is important in God's plan. Blood – even the blood of animals – is precious to God. Blood often means life in the Bible and God considers life precious. He gave life to animals and people when He created them and by it, God shows his nature.

Sacrifices made people holy, in other words, the relationship between God and them was restored. Many people consider this idea hard to understand, but its meaning can be clear to us, because of Christ's death. All of us deserve to die because of our sins. Christ paid with His blood (life) for our sins. His death gives us eternal life.

Only the blood of Christ can provide internal and eternal cleansing. His unblemished sacrifice initiated the New Covenant, the covenant of the heart. His blood purchased our ransom from sin and death and provides an eternal inheritance in heaven!

If you want to go deeper, read:  
John 10:17-18, Romans 3:23-26, 5:8-9, Colossians 1:13-14, 19-20, and 1 Peter 1:18-21.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# Jesus the Perfect sacrifice

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 9:23-28, John 14:6, and Romans 5:10**

Why is it so important that only Jesus, the Son of God, was the sacrifice?

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It is only the Son of God, the one who is perfect, without blemish, without sin who was able to pay the price for mankind's sin. By doing so, Jesus, our mediator, has reconciled us with God and has made it possible for us to be in a relationship with Him. There is no other way to the Father except through Jesus. All other religions maintain that we can earn eternity. This is not true. Jesus sacrificed Himself so that we receive life through Faith in Him.

Christ's work was much better than the work of Israel's priests (verse 23). The high priest' work was never complete. He could not end the power of sin and death and so his work could not make people perfect, unblemished, acceptable for God.

Christ is the perfect sacrifice because He died only once for our sin and God accepted His sacrifice. Therefore, his work was both complete and perfect. His work has given his people the right relationship with God.

Read Verse 26-28 again.

What happens after our death? How many times will Christ “bear the sins of many”? Are you one of those who eagerly await Him?

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Christ will return as King and Judge and then His people will be completely free from the power of sin, as He is.

Christ’s death has also defeated the power of death, although His people still deem His return will change that too. Christ also defeated the devil’s power, although he is still the enemy of God’s people. He constantly causes trouble for God’s people, but with His return, He will judge and punish the devil and his power will end.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 3:

# Victory through Jesus

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 2:14 10:11-18, Colossians 2:14-15 and 1 Peter 2:24**

What did Jesus defeat on the cross? Make a list of the evidence we have of Christ's victory for us.

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**Read Hebrews 10:18, Hosea 6:6, Matthew 9:13.**

How does it make you feel that Jesus has overcome Satan for you, that you won't face eternal death, that your sins are forgiven and your debt has been paid?

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The only way to get out of debt is by paying it. Jesus paid our debt for sin by being the sacrifice. In doing so, death, sin and Satan were defeated. No longer are we bound by the chains of guilt and sin, by the chains of Satan. We have been set free through Jesus who overcame these on our behalf.

When we trust in Jesus and His death for our eternal salvation, our sins are forgiven. God declares us “holy” and “perfect.” We are restored into relationship with God. However, God desires more for our life. He wants us to be conformed to the image of Christ.

We receive the Holy Spirit to help us to be conformed to the image of God. The presence of the Holy Spirit changes everything. The law of the Old Covenant was external and impossible to keep because mankind’s very nature is sinful. God’s own Spirit takes up residence inside His people, giving us the desire and the power to obey.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 4:

# Jesus our Mediator



**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 9:15-22**

What does it mean to you that Jesus is the perfect mediator?

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The role of a mediator consists of negotiating or facilitating on one's behalf. Jesus is our mediator and is the one who continuously prays on our behalf before God. John Piper notes the following; *"This very day I am being saved by the eternal intercession of Jesus in heaven. Jesus is praying for us and that is essential to our salvation. We are saved eternally by the eternal prayers (Romans 8:34) and advocacy (1 John 2:1) of Jesus in heaven as our High Priest. He prays for us and his prayers are answered because he prays perfectly, based on his perfect sacrifice."*

**Read Isaiah 53:12. 1 John 2:1 and Romans 8:34.**

What does it mean to you that Jesus is constantly praying for you?

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Jesus is the only “human” mediator between God and man. No one else—not Mary, not any previous Christian saints—has the power to intercede for us before the throne of the Almighty. Jesus did not go to heaven after His earthly ministry and “take a break” from His role as Mediator for His people. He reconciled us to God, we can expect that He will intercede on our behalf before the throne. Clearly, Jesus is still very active on our behalf in heaven.

After Jesus ascended to heaven and was seated at the right hand of God the Father. He returned to the glory He had before His incarnation to carry on His role of King of kings and Lord of lords. Jesus is the Advocate for Christians, meaning He is our great Defender. This is the intercessory role He currently fulfils for those who are His. Jesus is always pleading our case before the Father. Jesus is interceding for us while Satan is accusing us. The accusations fall upon deaf ears in heaven, because Jesus’ work on the cross paid our debt in full. Therefore, God always sees in His children the perfect righteousness of Jesus.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 5:

# Jesus our example

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Philippians 2:5-9 and John 12:25.**

In what ways did Jesus sacrifice Himself daily while on earth?

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Christ was submissive to the will of His Father. He was submissive not just when He felt like it, or agreed with it, or found it easy to go along with. He was to become the sacrifice that would win salvation for a fallen human race. He never once argued with God, the Father, concerning his eternal purposes. He was submissive to the will of God for life. He was submissive unto death, even death on a cross.

Jesus directed people to God. He never boasted about anything that He did. Instead, He was a servant. His life was a life of absolute service, of complete subjection. He was willing to be the perfect sacrifice whatever the cost of the sacrifice might be. He made himself a sacrifice by

dying on the cross for us. And for that God exalted Him on the throne.

**Read Hebrews 10:24, Mark 10:45 and Philippians 2:3-6 again.**

Think of a practical way you can sacrifice yourself for others?

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The measure of your submissiveness to God will always be directly proportionate to the amount of your mind that Christ has. This is to say: “God wherever you lead me, I will follow.” That’s the mind that says, “God I have no life outside of you. You are my life. Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee.”

If you possess the mind of Christ, you will be a selfless person instead of a self-absorbed one. Bringing people to Christ, not to my great work or my church’s great work. We are called to be His servants, to willingly serve.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## GROUP STUDY:

### Prayer

#### Memory verse:

*For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.*

*Hebrews 10:14*

#### Reflection:

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### Scripture Reading:

Read Hebrews 9:11-14; Genesis 3:6-15,21; Exodus 12:3-13; Hebrews 9:23-28 and Hebrews 10:11-18

## Discussion questions

Read Hebrews 9:11-14. List as many differences as you can find in verse 11 and 14 between the Old Testament and the new order which came with Jesus.

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Read Genesis 3:6-15, 21 and Exodus 12:3-13. What was the purpose of blood sacrifices? Why was it necessary for God's son to pay with His blood?

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Read Hebrews 9:23-28. Where does verse 24 tell us Jesus entered? Why does this verse tell us Jesus went there? What does it mean to you?

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Read Hebrews 10:11-18. Do you feel fully forgiven of all your sin and walk in the freedom of that forgiveness? If yes, how does this effect how you live day to day? What keeps you from walking in that forgiveness?

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**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **6**

## Jesus : the only way to God's glory

**Memory verse:**

*Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way.... let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.*

*Hebrews 10:19-20a and 22a*





## Day 1:

# Free access to God

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 10:19-25**

The "Most Holy Place" of verse 19 is a reference to the place in the tabernacle. It indicates the presence of God.

Who gives us free access to the Most Holy Place, and how are we given access?

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What does it mean for you to have free access to be near to God?

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There is no other way nearer to God but through Jesus. Without Christ you are without God, and without hope. The way to God is new. It is a living way, with one sacrifice and one priest: Jesus. He is alive and He intercedes for you. Since this is true, draw near to God where we can experience His love. In God's holy place He reveals His love and grace. In His holy place we

experience the outpouring of His Spirit and God's presence and we can grow. This represents a new way of living.

When has your faith in God been the strongest? The simplest? The shakiest? What were the circumstances in each case?

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According to the Bible there are only two ways to live. By far the most common way is to live by sight, to base your life on what you can see. The other way, far less common, is to live by faith, to base your life primarily and ultimately on what you cannot see. This is the Christian way. Christians have never seen God, or Jesus Christ, or heaven, or hell, or Satan, or the Holy Spirit. We have never seen any of the people in the Bible. Though we see the results, we have never seen any of the actual virtues that God commands or any of the graces that He gives. Yet we are convinced of all these things by faith. We base our earthly lives and our eternal destiny on things that we have never seen. That is the way the people of God have always lived—by faith. This is the life that pleases God. (*John MacArthur. 2007*)

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

### Let us draw near

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 4:16, 7:25,10:19-22a and 11:6**

Who or what is the house of God referred to in verse 21?

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Do you have a desire to draw nearer to God? If not, why not? If yes, how are you planning to do that on a regular base?

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Drawing near is to direct the heart into the presence of God who is as distant as the holy of holies in heaven, and yet as near as the door of faith. He is commanding us to come. To approach him. To draw near to him.

What should we do to draw nearer to God?

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Drawing near to God must be done with a true heart in full assurance of faith. The appeal is to draw near to God

with genuine intention. That authenticity in a personal relationship with God will be characterized by full assurance of faith. An authentic relationship is not plagued by doubt about the relationship. When the relationship is healthy and strong, there is a sense of confidence and certainty in that relationship.

We need to know what to do and why we are to do it. The why in this case is because we now have unparalleled freedom. We now have confidence and we now have liberty, because of the sacrifice of Christ. Every Christian ought to realize that he or she has access to God because of what Christ has done.

The Word says the confidence and freedom that you have is because of what Jesus did. The death of Jesus is the only way into the presence of God. The fact that He is the greatest high priest that has ever existed or will ever exist, encourages us to “Draw near.” Draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.

“Draw near” is the first imperative. What does it speak of? It speaks of our personal devotion to and relationship with God.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 3:

# Let us walk with God

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 10:22, Jeremiah 24:7 and Matthew 15:8**

Describe your intimate relationship with God. Is it close or is God far? How do you plan to have a more intimate relationship with God?

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The imagery in this verse is taken from the sacrificial ceremonies of the Old Covenant, where blood was sprinkled as a sign of cleansing, and the priests were continually washing themselves and the sacred vessels in basins of clear water. The “washing with pure water” refers to the Holy Spirit’s purifying one’s life by means of the Word of God.

**Read Romans 12:1-2**

What do you think is necessary in your life to come nearer to God?

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We draw nearer to God by making sure our hearts are sincere. But how do we maintain a sincere heart and draw nearer to God every day? Two things:

- Daily cleansing - “having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience.” We must be intentional about claiming the cleansing power of the cross. Confess sins daily and accept the forgiveness of Christ and live in victory.
- Daily commitment - “having our bodies washed with pure water.” Take your everyday life - your sleeping, eating, going-to-work and walking-around life - and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him.

The author of Hebrews is warning us that he knows that, sadly, it is possible for Christians not to realize the blessings that are theirs in Christ. He is saying: “Don’t do that. Don’t walk through this life as a believer and not realize the significance of what Jesus has done for you. Don’t waste this time. Don’t go for years without realizing what you have been given in the Lord Jesus Christ.”

He is saying: “Draw near with a full assurance into the presence of God.”

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 4:

# Faithful God



**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 10:23, 2 Timothy 3:12 and 1 Corinthians 10:13**

What will cause you to lose your faith? Think practically.

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Will you deny Christ when someone threatens to kill your children?

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Drawing near to God enables one to hold fast to our faith. It is also true that drawing near to God requires one to hold fast to the confession of hope. In difficult times drawing near to God requires an act of obedient faith. The question to us is: Will we stay true and remain a part of the body of Christ? Or will we give in easily, the moment persecution and ridicule happens?

What can help you to hold on to your faith?

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God is faithful, reliable, and dependable. Because of that, obedience and faithfulness to Him during difficult times, is not risky or foolish. It is the wisest and safest way to live. To fail to trust and obey is to deny the faithfulness of God. When we choose our way instead of God's, it is a clear statement that we believe that our way is better than God's way or that I do not believe God can do it His way.

Embrace your hope. Hold fast to your hope. Be a hope-filled person. Hope in God. God has made promises to you and He is faithful. He has promised to write the law on your heart (Hebrews 10:16) and work in you what is pleasing in his sight (Hebrews 13:21); He has promised to remember your sins no more (Hebrews 10:17); He has promised that we will be perfected for all time by a single sacrifice (Hebrews 10:14); He has promised never to leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:59) and He has promised to bring good from all our pain (Hebrews 12:10). He keeps his word!

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 5:

### Consider others

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 10:24-25 and Philippians 2:3**

What responsibility do we have towards other congregation members? (see verse 24)

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As a follower of Jesus, we are called not to be in our own selfish or isolated world. We can no longer be selfish, caring for only our own interests.

To consider one another, places an obligation upon me. I need to carefully consider the circumstances and weakness of others so that I can understand what type of support they need to be able to be strong in Christ.

Do you think it is important to gather regularly as Christians? Motivate your answer.

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Collective and corporate worship is a vital part of spiritual life. We are called to worship together, because our time together is an opportunity to encourage one another.

The word *NEGLECT* or *FORSAKE* means to abandon, to leave behind or to desert.

One of the reasons we see people neglect the assembling together, is that they are at a point in their life where they feel it is not important enough to spend their time with other people. Their time is more important than spending time with God or His people. When our focus is only to receive something when going to church, we will miss out on fellowship and people will not be motivated to meet in worship.

Why is it necessary to adhere to the warnings in verse 24-25?

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The nearness of Christ's second coming should be a motivation to grow in godliness.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way.... let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith*

*Hebrews 10:19-20a and 22a*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 10:19-25

## Discussion questions

What benefit(s) does the blood of Christ provide according to verse 19? Why is the blood of Jesus so important?

.....  
.....

What is the confession of hope mentioned in verse 23?

.....  
.....

What is the hope of your life?

.....  
.....

Why do people neglect coming together?

.....  
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.....

What are your reasons for attending church or not?

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.....  
.....

**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **7**

## Jesus the example of endurance and perseverance

**Memory verse:**

*And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

A HEART FOR GOD  
A HEART FOR PEOPLE



# Day 1:

## Encouraged by the believers of old



**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 11:32-38 and Hebrews 12:1-3**

The 1st word of this paragraph - "therefore" - indicates that there is a connection with the previous content.

**Read Hebrews 11:1-2, 39-40**

What does it refer to?

.....  
.....

Who or what is the "cloud of witnesses" referred to in verse 1?

.....  
.....

Read Hebrews 11:32-38. What encouragement do you find in the lives of the saints mentioned?

Reference	Encouragement
Verse 33	

Verse 34	
Verse 35	
Verse 36	
Verse 37	
Verse 38	

Do you find these references to the Old Testament saints an inspiration in your faith journey? Why? Why not?

.....  
 .....

With the race metaphor, the picture here is that as we run the race. Along the route we encounter the Old Testament saints (and, by extension, other heroes of the faith in the New Testament, plus those who lived after biblical times). They are calling out to us by their examples of faith: “Keep going, I made it and you can, too! I know it’s hard, but the reward is worth it! Don’t quit! The finish line is not too far ahead!”

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# A race requires sacrifice and participation

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:1-3, James 1:14-15, Luke 14:28-33**

The author of Hebrews compares the life of a Christian with a long-distance race. The race described in Hebrews 12 is not a fun-run, but a serious endurance race. Yesterday we realised how many "heroes of the faith" have completed it successfully and that they are now our encouragement.

What, according to verse 1, should we get rid of?

.....  
.....

In a race there is no room for extra or unnecessary baggage or weight - because it would hinder the athlete and rob them of energy and strength. No dedicated athlete will compete with a thick and comforting track suite still on; and you will not find a dedicated athlete who does not attend to his physical fitness.

How does sins "hinder" us in our faith journey? (Greek means: "tightly controlling")

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The author refers to "sin" as an impeding weight that hinders us in the race of life. Sinful or unpleasant habits, neglect of your spiritual commitment or even the tendency to neglect the communion of believers in preference of your own pleasures and comfort; might hinder you in enduring to the end of the spiritual race.

What are some spiritual encumbrances in your life that are not necessarily sin, but keep you from running well?  
.....  
.....

We often make the mistake to assume "hindrances" in our faith are obvious and enormous obstacles or flaws in our actions. We tend to forget that sin is like your shadow - you can never outrun it and its tentacles often appears to be invisible, minutely small or innocent. It is only by constantly focussing on Jesus and His Word that we will notice the burdens or our imperfections and bad habits that hold us back or threaten to let us stumble.

How can Christians train and prepare for the faith journey?

.....  
.....

Christian life is a lifelong, gruelling race that entails some long hills to climb and some swampy marshes to plod through. To make it to the end, you need self-discipline to get into good shape, you will need to maintain your motivation, and you will need sustained effort. No one enters a marathon with the thought of dropping out after a mile. Finishing well is everything. In this race, you are not competing with other believers. We're all on the same team. We're competing against the enemy of our souls, who opposes God's kingdom and wants us to drop out.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 3:

# A race requires **RUNNING!**

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:1-3 and 1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

A race is determined by what happens between the starting point and the finish line. According to this author Christ is the starting point, the origin of true faith. But living in faith is not a walk in the park, rather a race of endurance. It does not guarantee that you will never make mistakes. To prevent stumbling does not mean that you have to quit, but it means we get up again and run the race that is set before us with endurance.

How would you describe the spiritual race in your own words?

.....  
.....

How are you doing in your own spiritual race?

.....  
.....

If you're running a marathon, you can't make up your own course. If you stray from the course, you'll be disqualified. To finish the Christian marathon, it is

important to always keep in mind that the Sovereign God sets the course. You may not like parts of the course. But that is not for you to alter. Running with endurance requires adopting a certain mindset. You run with the end in mind. One key to running the whole distance is motivation.

What is your motivation to keep you running?

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**Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.**

According to this passage, what should you do to run this race, to live out your faith till the end?

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.....

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 4:

# Encouraged by Jesus

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:1-3, Philippians 1:6 and Philippians 2:8-9**

What does it mean that Jesus is "the founder and perfector of our faith"? (Refer to Hebrews 5:9 and Philippians 1:6 and 2:8-9)

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.....

In this race JESUS is both the starting line and the finish line - the inventor (author) and the champion (perfector) - of it. This means that He finished the course of faith perfectly, showing us how to finish well.

**Read Hebrews 12:2 & 3(a).**

Identify the actions that Jesus took to complete the race as Victor:

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.....  
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.....

What was it that motivated Jesus to endure and complete the race?

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No one has ever endured a greater trial than the Cross. Others have been crucified and others have been tortured in indescribably horrible ways. But only Jesus knew the glory and joy of perfect fellowship with the Father in heaven before coming to this earth. Only Jesus knew the perfect holiness of His divine nature. While Jesus is unique, His exaltation to the right hand of the throne of God shows us a glimpse of His glory that we will share throughout eternity, if by faith we run with endurance.

We should never take our eyes off Jesus - we should always stay focused on Him - His example, His endurance and His guidance. Then we will also share in His victory!

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 5:

# The need for endurance



**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:1-3, Philippians 2:12-13, 2 Timothy 4:7-8 and Romans 8:33-39**

How many times is the concept "endured" used by the author in Hebrews 12:1-3?

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Jesus showed us a great example of endurance. Why should Christians always remember that Jesus ENDURED the cross, shame, and hostility against himself?

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Do you find it easy to endure in times of trials and tribulations? Why?

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Read Romans 8:33-39 and (in your own words) describe the encouragement it gives you.

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.....

We run with endurance by fixing our eyes on Jesus. This means that we need to take our eyes off ourselves and our own situation. This requires us trusting that He is for us and with us in all situations. The joy of knowing and obeying Jesus is greater than all the rejection, anger, ridicule, or anything worse that we might have to bear for His sake.

You can make sense of suffering and change adversity to prosperity. Through Jesus Christ, your misery can become your ministry. Your difficulties become new opportunities.

Perhaps you need to refocus on Jesus and the joy of receiving the crown of righteousness that He has promised to all who finish the course. Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8 and claim it for yourself.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**





## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

*Hebrews 12:1(b)-2*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 12:1-3, James 1:14-15, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Philippians 1:6 and Philippians 2:8-9

## Discussion questions

In Hebrews 12:1 the example of an athlete is used. What hindrances should we get rid of? (verse 1)

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.....

What attitude does the athlete need to run the race?  
What does this mean for us?

.....  
.....

What does it mean that Jesus is "the founder and perfecter of our faith"?

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How can Christians train and prepare for the faith journey? How can we as group help each other?

.....  
.....

**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **8**

## Discipline because of love

**Memory verse:**

*It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?*

*Hebrews 12:7*





## Day 1:

# Jesus inspires us

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:4-13, Matthew 26:38-42 and Luke 23:41**

The Christians to whom this letter was written were experiencing a new wave of prosecution. Would it not be better to ignore or renounce their faith just a little bit? These questions, fears and struggles caused them to become spiritually weary. They were in danger of falling like the unbelievers during the exodus through the desert.

Hebrews chapter 12 is an encouragement to endure, based on the example of Jesus' life and suffering. List a few examples of suffering that Jesus had to endure.

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**Read Matthew 26:38-42**

Was it easy for Jesus to face the cross? Why? Why not?

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According to Luke 23:41, did Jesus deserve to die a martyr's death?

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In your struggle against sin – did you have to endure something so serious? What motivated you to continue?

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The Bible is warning believers not to become discouraged and lose motivation. The author uses an idiom: "do not become tired in spirit"! Unless you are being horribly tortured and are facing execution for your faith, you can always find those who have it much more difficult than you do. If you constantly remind yourself that Jesus had it harder than you, you will find enough encouragement from His example not to grow fainthearted.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# No DISCIPLINE, No LOVE

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:5-6, Proverbs 3:11-12 and Psalm 94:12**

Discipline is one of the more controversial topics of our time. People forget that discipline the result of love and understanding is.

What according to Hebrews 12:5 did the church forget?

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What feelings and memories does the word discipline bring to mind?

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Read Hebrews 12:6 and compare it with Proverbs 3:11-12: Whom do the Lord discipline?

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The author is quoting Proverbs 3, where children are encouraged to accept the discipline and punishment from their parents. Parents discipline their children because they love them. If parents did not care for their children, they would have left them on their own to grow like wild oats. Likewise, God also uses different situations in our lives as a form of discipline; to redirect us or bring us to reality because He loves us!!

Can you identify any incidents in your life that was a form of discipline from God?

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.....

A definite proof of a father's love is that he would rather discipline his child than let him form destructive habits. He might use punishment to apply the discipline - but it is because of his love, NO other reason. Suffering is often God's chastisement: He uses difficult circumstances to purge the wrong things from your life. But He who chastises has a caring heart - through the ordeals and suffering He confirms that you are His child. He wants to increase your understanding, insight, patience and compassion - and is waiting for your response.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 3:

# Discipline proves you are God's children



**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:7-10 and James 1:2-3**

Identify and list the three important truths that we find in Hebrews 12:7. Describe it in your own words.

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Compare Hebrews 12:7(a) with James 1:2-3 and think about the statement that Christians experience discipline to learn endurance in their faith.

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Why should a Christian who experiences discipline rejoice?

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How did Jesus learn obedience? (Refer to Hebrews 5:8)

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Compare Hebrews 12:7(c) with Hebrews 5:8 and Hebrews 12:9-10(a) and meditate on the following statement: It leaves a question mark (if they really love their children) if earthly parents do not discipline their children! Do you agree? Why? Why not?

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.....

It should be normal for a father to discipline his children. Earthly fathers need to realise that if they neglect to discipline their children it reflects a lack of real love for them! It is the godly responsibility of earthly fathers to direct their children by correcting wrong / sinful behaviour through discipline. An earthly father might not be perfect himself, but that does not spare him to direct his children to a proper lifestyle through discipline.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 4:

# Discipline is hard

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:7-11, James 1:2-4 and Romans 8:16-18**

We have learnt that when the Lord disciplines us, it is because He loves us, nothing else. To “run with endurance the race that is set before us” (Hebrews 12:1), we need to know how God wants us to respond to His loving discipline.

What should be the result of His loving discipline? (Refer to verse 11)

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To benefit by God’s discipline, we must be “trained” by it. The Greek word (*gymnazo*; we get gymnasium from it) indicates physical training or exercise. It meant, literally, to strip naked. There were two images behind the word. First, as we have seen, an athlete must strip himself of all needless weights or encumbrances that would hinder him from running well.

The ancient Greeks, like modern people, were enamoured by the perfect body. An athlete would strip

before his trainer, who would determine which muscles the athlete needed to develop. The trainer would develop a regimen for the athlete to build up the muscles that were lacking, to perfect his physique. But, of course, the athlete then had to submit to the training regimen to benefit from it.

God is the perfect spiritual trainer. He knows where each of us is lacking and what we need to develop to run well. But we need to submit to the program that He prescribes. If we dodge the training, we will pay later by being defeated by temptation and sin.

Why does God allow his children to be tried and tested?

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What will be the result in your life if you endure discipline?

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Can you thank God for your suffering today, because you know that He intended it for your benefit? Will you pray for endurance, so that you could bear the fruit of righteousness and peace?

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 5:

# Encouragement

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 12:12-17, Isaiah 35:3-4**

Discipline is a mark of a genuine father-son relationship. A father never disciplines other people's disobedient children. But a loving father will discipline his own children, because he loves them and wants them to grow up to respect proper authority.

Discipline is NOT ONLY painful or harsh. There is also the aspect of encouragement and direction.

What should the effect of discipline be in your life?

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.....

**Read Isaiah 35:3-4.**

Who will renew your strength and to what extent?

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.....

What are the two results or responsibilities of someone whose life bears the fruit of righteousness? (verse 14)

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Describe the different aspects of holiness that you see in verses 15-16.

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How does your life compare to a life of holiness?

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In the Christian life, finishing well means everything. As Paul faced execution, he wrote to Timothy, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7). We are so prone to think of ourselves as failures if we don’t set records or win. But for Paul, most likely the greatest Christian who ever lived, it was a matter of endurance. For Paul, winning was lasting to the end.

May this be an encouragement in your faith journey.

**End today’s study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?*

*Hebrews 12:7*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 12:4-17, Hebrews 5:8, Romans 8:16-17 and Proverbs 13:24

## Discussion questions

Read Hebrews 12:5, Hebrews 5:8 and Romans 8:16-17. Jesus, as a human being, had to learn about obedience through suffering. What does it say about our status before God if He also disciplines us? Discuss.

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Compare Hebrews 12:6 with Proverbs 13:24 and discuss why the Bible insists that there is a correlation in how true love of a parent is also seen in the way they discipline their children.

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Discuss the following statement: It leaves a question mark if earthly parents do not discipline their children!

.....  
.....

Discipline is not only painful or harsh. It is meant to give encouragement and direction. What effect should God's discipline have in your life? Discuss.

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**Close in prayer**

# THE HEART OF GOD REVEALED IN CHRIST

Week **9**

## Display the heart of Jesus

**Memory verse:**

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today  
and forever.*

*Hebrews 13: 8*



A HEART FOR GOD  
A HEART FOR PEOPLE

129

A study of Hebrews





# Day 1:

## Love

**Begin today's study with prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 13:1, 1 Corinthians 8:1, 1 John 3:14-16 and 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7**

Hebrews 13 contains many practical instructions about Christian living. It reminds us to worship God in word and deed. Beside faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, biblical love is the supreme mark of the Christian. It is mandatory for every Christian to grow in love!

Write Hebrews 13:1 in your own words.

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.....

**Read 1 Corinthians 8:1.** What is the difference in our actions when it is based on knowledge only, instead of on love and knowledge?

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.....

**Read 1 John 3:14-16.** How do we know what real love is?

.....  
.....

Being born of God means that God is your heavenly Father, and all others who have been born of God are your spiritual brothers and sisters. Our heavenly Father is pleased when His children love each other.

However, biblical love requires attention and focus. It is founded on God's great love for us and that fact that we are brothers and sisters in His family. Biblical love will not continue unless we remove the self-love and selfishness from our lives.

**Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.** Take time to evaluate each aspect of biblical love. Do you love those in the church? If so, how did you show it in your words and behaviour last week? Is it reflected in your life? Is it how you react to your brothers and sisters in faith?

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**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## Day 2:

# Hospitality and compassion

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 13:2-3, 3 John 1:5-10 and Matthew 25:34-40**

For the early church, hospitality was very important. They harboured fellow believers that had to flee for their beliefs. By assisting them, they assisted in the spreading of the Gospel.

Do you think hospitality to strangers is still an expression of our Christian love?

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.....

Where is the balance between being hospitable to strangers and being taken advantage of by people?

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Even at the time of the writing of Hebrews, people were trying to misuse the hospitality of the Christians. The command to hospitality has not changed through the ages. However, it must be blended with some common

sense about fallen human nature. We should be generous and ready to share, but we should not foster someone's irresponsible habits!

**Read Matthew 25:34-40.**

What does Jesus say about the way we should treat people that are struggling?

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Compassion is one of the attributes of God, that we as believers should also have. However, we often avoid opportunities to show Christ's love to others in the family of God. We must focus on loving fellow believers, on being hospitable, and on helping those who suffer, especially those who suffer for their faith.

In what way is love, hospitality and compassion visible in your life? And in your congregation?

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.....

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **Day 3:**

# **Marriage**

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 13:4, Matthew 5:27-30 and Matthew 19:1-9**

God instituted marriage. It is the smallest, but strongest core of society. For a couple who found each other in love and marriage, their family is a small universe. Where they serve the Lord, they form a small church of their own.

During the last few years, our culture has taken a U-turn away from the Christian view of marriage and sexual morality that was prevalent before that time. However, this is not as new an idea as we think. To restrict sex to marriage was a novel idea to many in the first century. Men often had mistresses or could go to temple prostitutes. For the author of Hebrews to call people to lifelong fidelity to a single spouse was radically counter-cultural. Unfortunately, it has become so again in our culture.

What was God's original intent for marriage?

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.....

What does verse 4 demands from spouses?

.....  
.....

Does this apply to unmarried people too?

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.....

Biblical marriage is a lifelong covenant relationship (Malachi 2:14). The sexual union is to be restricted within the bounds of that covenant relationship. To engage in sex outside of marriage is sin.

How can a true believer be enslaved by sexual sin?

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.....

What is the state of your marriage or relationships?  
Does is reflect the biblical truths about marriage?

.....  
.....

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 4:

# Being content

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 13:5-6, 1 Timothy 6: 10 and  
Philippians 4:11-13**

Contentment is more a matter of our perspective than of our circumstances. But even among God's people, true contentment is not common. To grumble about our circumstances is to challenge the love and goodness of our heavenly Father. To be discontented implies that He has not provided us with what we need.

When is a person greedy – driven by a love of money?

.....  
.....

Why should we be free of greed and worries about money?

.....  
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What are the dangers of a chronic fear and worry about money?

.....

How can we cultivate contentment in our lives?

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.....

The world constantly seeks to make us feel discontented. All advertising is based on the idea of fuelling a need to get something that you did not even know you need. To cultivate contentment, you've got to guard your thoughts and constantly work at developing a biblical view of life, of material possessions, and of eternity. You must avoid comparing yourself to others, recognizing that God is sovereign and that He has different purposes for different people.

Are you free of worries? Are you content with what you have? If not, why?

.....  
.....

God wants us to trust Him with our lives and our livelihood. Bow before God's sovereignty daily, trust Him to provide for all your needs and keep an eternal perspective. The beloved Psalm 23 is a picture of contented sheep, enjoying the provision of the Good Shepherd. Meditate on it until it becomes your perspective.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**

## Day 5:

# Follow the example of Jesus

**Begin the study by spending time in prayer.**

**Read Hebrews 13:7-9,17-19, Matthew 7:15 and Acts 20:30**

We live in a time when Christians minimize the importance of sound doctrine and even speak against it as something that divides us and goes against Christ's commands to love one another. The concept that any religious teaching may be universally true or false runs counter to the modern mindset.

Read verse 7. What influence should the spiritual leaders of the congregation have on believers?

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.....

Spiritual leaders have a very profound impact on people's lives. They should be remembered for the Word of God they proclaimed and the fact that they held fast to their believe in Jesus Christ.

Verse 8 says Jesus Christ is always the same. What does this mean to you?

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What does it mean that 'our hearts are strengthened by grace'?

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What are the strange teachings that the author refers to? Are you aware of any strange teachings in your immediate community?

.....  
.....

People are easily influenced to follow new ideas and strange teachings. Sometimes it sounds so good. However, if any teaching contrasts with what Jesus taught us, it is false. Satan has always infiltrated the church with false teaching that invariably dilutes or digresses from God's grace in Jesus Christ.

You don't have to wade through all the religious writings in the world to tell if they're good or bad. If it proclaims Jesus as eternal God in human flesh and faith in His sacrifice as the only way of salvation, it is sound. Don't be carried away by anything else. Let your heart be established in God's grace.

**End today's study by returning to the Lord in prayer.**



## **GROUP STUDY:**

### **Prayer**

#### **Memory verse:**

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

*Hebrews 13: 8*

#### **Reflection:**

Share with the group members how God worked in your life during this week.

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Read Hebrews 13:1-9 and 17-19

## Discussion questions

Read verse 1-6. As a group, discuss what you can do to help the congregation grow with regards to:

Brotherly love: .....

.....

Hospitality: .....

.....

Contentment: .....

.....

Pure marriages and the struggle against sexual sins:.....

.....

What is the responsibility of the leaders of the congregation? What can you do to assist them in fulfilling their calling?

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Are you aware of any strange teachings in your immediate community? What can you do to refute them?

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**Close in prayer**



## Memory verses

### Week 1:

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.  
Hebrews 1:3(a)*

### Week 2:

*But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.  
Hebrews 2:9*

### Week 3:

*See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.  
Hebrews 3:13*

## **Week 4:**

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.*

*Hebrews 4:14*

## **Week 5:**

*For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.*

*Hebrews 10:14*

## **Week 6:**

*Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way.... let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.*

*Hebrews 10:19-20a and 22a*

## **Week 7:**

*And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

*Hebrews 12:1(b)-2*

## **Week 8:**

*It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?*

*Hebrews 12:7*

## **Week 9:**

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

*Hebrews 13: 8*





# Resources

Bruce Hunt – Precept Austin

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Various commentaries and notes on the [Preceptaustin.org](http://Preceptaustin.org) website.





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