



## Life Group Leaders Guide:

**Sermon: "The Intercessor We Need"**

**Scripture: Hebrews 7:19-28**

**BIG IDEA of Hebrews:** If you are a genuine believer, your endurance in the Christian faith will be directly connected to how clearly you see who Jesus is, what He has done for you AND what He is doing for you right NOW.

**BIG IDEA of this Sermon:** Hope in Jesus builds confidence because He alone is our God-appointed, superior intercessor.

### **Hebrews 7:19-28 NLT**

*"For the law never made anything perfect. But now we have confidence in a better hope, through which we draw near to God. <sup>20</sup> This new system was established with a solemn oath. Aaron's descendants became priests without such an oath, <sup>21</sup> but there was an oath regarding Jesus. For God said to him, 'The Lord has taken an oath and will not break his vow: 'You are a priest forever.'"<sup>22</sup> Because of this oath, Jesus is the one who guarantees this better covenant with God. <sup>23</sup> There were many priests under the old system, for death prevented them from remaining in office. <sup>24</sup> But because Jesus lives forever, his priesthood lasts forever. <sup>25</sup> Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save <sup>[b]</sup> those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf. <sup>26</sup> He is the kind of high priest we need because he is holy and blameless, unstained by sin. He has been set apart from sinners and has been given the highest place of honor in heaven. <sup>27</sup> Unlike those other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices every day. They did this for their own sins first and then for the sins of the people. But Jesus did this once for all when he offered himself as the sacrifice for the people's sins. <sup>28</sup> The law appointed high priests who were limited by human weakness. But after the law was given, God appointed his Son with an oath, and his Son has been made the perfect High Priest forever."*

**BIG IDEA of Hebrews:** If you are a genuine believer, your endurance in the Christian faith will be directly connected to how clearly you see who Jesus is, what He has done for you AND what He is doing for you right NOW.

**BIG IDEA of this Sermon:** Hope in Jesus builds confidence because He alone is our God-appointed, superior intercessor.

## **Summary**

This week's sermon continues our series in Hebrews, focusing on the theme 'Jesus is Better.' The sermon unpacks the superiority of Jesus as our eternal high priest, emphasizing His role as the confirmed Savior, His continual service as our intercessor, and His complete sacrifice for our sins. The message highlights how Jesus fulfills God's ultimate plan for salvation, surpassing the old Levitical priesthood with His perfect, eternal ministry. The sermon challenges us to see Jesus as our Savior and an unchanging mediator who bridges the gap between God and humanity, offering us better hope and confidence in our faith.

## **Intro Prayer**

Heavenly Father, we thank You for bringing us together today. As we gather to discuss Your Word, open our hearts and minds to understand the depth of Jesus' role as our high priest. Help us see His supremacy and confidently draw near to You. May we be receptive to what You want to teach us today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **"The Intercessor We Need":**

### **Understanding Jesus as Our Intercessor**

1. The sermon emphasizes that Jesus is a *better* high priest. In what ways does the book of Hebrews demonstrate His superiority over the Levitical priesthood?
2. How does the idea of Jesus interceding for us now impact how you view your daily struggles and challenges?
3. The passage in Hebrews describes Jesus as holy, blameless, and unstained by sin. Why is His sinlessness essential for His role as our high priest and intercessor?

### **Living in Confidence & Hope**

1. The sermon states, "*Hope in Jesus builds confidence.*" How does understanding Jesus as our superior intercessor give us confidence in our faith?
2. How does knowing that Jesus "lives for this" (interceding for us) change how we respond to guilt, shame, or fear in our Christian walk?
3. In what ways does Jesus' intercession challenge us to trust in God's justice rather than trying to prove ourselves worthy before Him?

### **Applying the Truths of the Gospel**

1. The sermon mentioned that Jesus' intercession and sacrifice give believers a new identity. How does this identity free us from seeking approval from others or trying to earn our salvation?

2. The sermon references Jesus' prayer for His followers in John 17. What does this prayer reveal about His heart for us, and how should it shape the way we pray for ourselves and others?
3. If we genuinely believe that Jesus is interceding for us, how should that affect our approach to worship, prayer, and evangelism?

### **Personal Reflection**

1. What is one specific way this sermon challenged your perspective on Jesus' role in your life?
2. How does knowing that Jesus is our complete sacrifice give you peace and assurance in your relationship with God?
3. If we were to open the "curtain of heaven" and see Jesus interceding for us, what specific struggles or burdens would you entrust to Him today?

These questions should encourage deep reflection and application of the sermon's key points. Would you like any additional focus areas for discussion?

### **Life Application**

This week, take time each day to reflect on how Jesus' role as your intercessor and high priest influences your relationship with God. Consider journaling your thoughts and prayers, focusing on the confidence and hope you have in Him.

### **Key Takeaways**

- Jesus is our eternal high priest, superior to the Levitical system.
- His priesthood is marked by permanence, perfection, and power.
- Jesus' sacrifice was, once for all, providing complete salvation.
- He continually intercedes for us, offering us a better hope.
- Our confidence in faith is rooted in understanding who Jesus is and what He has done.

### **Ending Prayer**

Lord, we thank You for the assurance that Jesus is our eternal high priest and intercessor. As we move forward, help us live in the confidence and hope that comes from knowing He is continually advocating for us. May our lives reflect Your redemption story and bring glory to Your name. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Resources To Dig Deeper:**

### **Resources:**

ESV & NLT Bible

The Message

The Bible Project

Rienecker & Rogers Linguistic Key To The Greek New Testament

The NIV Application Commentary – George H. Guthrie

Evangelical Biblical Theology Commentary – Thomas R. Schreiner

Commentary for Christian Formation (Hebrews) – Amy Peeler

The Epistle to the Hebrews – F.F. Bruce

### **Sermon Series:**

Fix Our Eyes on Jesus: study in Hebrews – Alistair Begg

Hebrews series – Fellowship Greenville

Christ our Treasury – Timothy Keller

Hebrew Audio Lectures – George H. Guthrie

Exposit the Word (Hebrews) – John Piper