



Life Group Group Discussion Guide

Major Upgrade – It's Just Better (Hebrews 8)

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."

Central Idea of This Sermon:

"My understanding of Jesus as a High Priest, His Role, and His covenant influences how earthly shadows might obscure my view of His glory."

Icebreaker:

- Have you ever had an experience where you upgraded something (like a phone, car, or home) and realized how much better it was? How did that change your perspective on the old version?
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Read Together: Hebrews 8:1-13

'Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who

offer gifts according to the law. They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, "See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain." But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second. For he finds fault with them when he says: "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.'

Hebrews 8:1-13

Discussion Questions:

Understanding Jesus as Our High Priest:

1. Hebrews 8 describes Jesus as a **better High Priest** seated at the right hand of God. How does this change the way we view our relationship with God?
2. The sermon emphasized that our endurance in faith is connected to how **clearly we see Jesus**. What are some ways we can **see Him more clearly** in our daily lives?

Identifying and Removing Spiritual Blockages:

3. The sermon mentioned that **things can block our view of Jesus** (self-effort, performance, distractions, etc.). What are some things in your life that might be obscuring your ability to trust Him fully?
4. Are there areas where you are **holding onto "shadows"** of the past (old habits, religious rituals, or ways of thinking) instead of fully embracing the **new covenant in Christ**?

Applying the Concept of a Better Covenant:

5. The analogy of a **trailer vs. a completed home** was used to explain the old and new covenants. In what ways have you experienced the transition from something temporary or insufficient to something fulfilling in your spiritual life?
6. What does it mean that **God writes His law on our hearts** (Hebrews 8:10)? How have you seen this truth at work in your own spiritual growth?

Living in the Reality of Jesus' Finished Work:

7. Hebrews 8:12 says, "**For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.**" How does this truth shape the way you view **forgiveness and grace** in your own life?
 8. The sermon emphasized the **contrast between the temporary (earthly) and the eternal (heavenly)**. What are some practical ways we can **shift our focus from temporary things to the eternal reality of Jesus**?
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Practical Application:

- **Personal Reflection:** Take a few moments in silence to reflect—what is **one thing** God is showing you about your faith today?
 - **Commit to Action:** This week, choose **one area** where you will shift your focus from something temporary to something eternal. Share with the group how they can pray for you in this.
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Prayer Time:

- Pray for **clearer vision** of Jesus and His work in our lives.
 - Pray for **strength to let go of anything that blocks our view of Him**.
 - Pray for **one another's specific needs** as shared during discussion.
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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