



## **Life Group Leader Discussion Guide: Persevere by Drawing Near**

### **Introduction:**

This session focuses on the themes of faith, diligence, and rest as explored in Hebrews chapters 3 and 4. The passage encourages believers to strive to enter God's rest through faith in His Word and by drawing near to Him. We will explore the multifaceted nature of God's rest, the role of Jesus as our high priest, and how these truths apply to our lives today.

### **Discussion and Questions about the Passage:**

#### **Understanding God's Rest:**

##### **Read Hebrews 4:1-11.**

- What are the different types of rest mentioned in the passage (creation rest, promised land rest, spiritual rest, eschatological rest)?
- How do these types of rest relate to each other?

##### **Discuss the phrase "strive to enter that rest" (Hebrews 4:11).**

- What does it mean to strive for rest, and why is it described as an oxymoron?
- How does the concept of rest in this passage connect with the idea of faith?
- What role does faith play in entering God's rest?

#### **The Role of God's Word:**

##### **Read Hebrews 4:12-13.**

- How is God's Word described in these verses?
- What does it mean for the Word to be "living and active"?

**Discuss the idea of God's Word as a tool for exposing unbelief.**

- How does this exposure help us in our spiritual journey?
- How can we ensure that we are continually exposing our hearts to God's Word?
- What challenges might we face in doing so?

**Jesus as Our High Priest:****Read Hebrews 4:14-16.**

- What does it mean for Jesus to be our "great high priest"?
- How does this role provide us with the confidence to approach God?
- How does Jesus' understanding of our weaknesses impact your view of Him?
- In what ways does this understanding encourage you in your faith?

**Application and Reflection Questions:****Applying the Concept of Rest:**

- Reflect on your current understanding of God's rest. How can you apply this understanding to your daily life and spiritual practices?
- What practical steps can you take to prioritize entering God's rest amidst the busyness and challenges of life?

**Engaging with God's Word:**

- Consider your current engagement with Scripture. How can you intentionally and continually expose your heart to God's Word?
- Identify any areas of unbelief or doubt in your life. How can God's Word help you address these areas and strengthen your faith?

**Drawing Near to God:**

- Reflect on the invitation to draw near to God's throne with confidence. What barriers might be preventing you from doing so, and how can you overcome them?
- How can you incorporate regular times of prayer and reflection to draw near to God and seek His grace and mercy?

### **Living in Light of Jesus' Role:**

- How does understanding Jesus as a sympathetic high priest change your approach to life's struggles and challenges?
- In what ways can you remind yourself daily that "Jesus is better" and allow this truth to influence your decisions and actions?

### **Conclusion:**

As we conclude this session, let's remember that entering God's rest is both a present reality and a future hope. Through faith, diligence, and drawing near to God, we can experience the peace and assurance that comes from resting in His promises. Let us encourage one another to persevere in this journey, continually seeking the rest that is found in Jesus Christ.