



Life Group Discussion Guide:

Hebrews: 5:1-10

Jesus Our High Priest - Appointed by God to Act in Compassion

Sermon Summary: In this sermon, we dive into Hebrews 4:14-5:10, highlighting Jesus as our great High Priest who fully understands and sympathizes with our weaknesses. The Old Testament priests, appointed to act on behalf of the people, were limited by their own sinfulness and had to offer sacrifices for their own sins before they could intercede for others. Their priesthood was temporary and could not provide a final solution to sin. In contrast, Jesus, appointed by God, offers a perfect and eternal priesthood after the order of Melchizedek. He not only empathizes with us but also provides the ultimate sacrifice for our sins by tasting death for everyone. This act of complete identification with humanity allows Jesus to fulfill the role of High Priest in a way the Old Testament priests could not. The sermon challenges us to approach Jesus' throne of grace with confidence, knowing that He offers mercy, grace, and peace in our time of need.

Discussion Questions on Scripture Content:

Understanding the Role of the High Priest:

1. What were the responsibilities of the Old Testament high priests, and how did their own sinfulness limit their ability to fully fulfill their office?
2. How does Jesus' role as our High Priest differ from that of the Levitical priests, particularly in terms of His sinlessness and eternal priesthood?
Jesus' Empathy and Compassion:
 1. How does Hebrews 4:15 describe Jesus' ability to sympathize with our weaknesses, and why is this significant?

2. In what ways did Jesus demonstrate His empathy and compassion during His earthly ministry?

The Significance of Melchizedek:

1. Who was Melchizedek, and why is Jesus' priesthood compared to his?
What does it mean for Jesus to be a priest "forever after the order of Melchizedek"?

The Power of Jesus' Sacrifice:

1. How does Jesus' death and resurrection fulfill the role of the High Priest in a way that the Old Testament sacrifices could not?
2. What does it mean that Jesus is the "source of eternal salvation" for those who obey Him?

Life Application Questions:

Approaching the Throne of Grace:

1. How does understanding that Jesus tasted death for everyone affect the way we approach His throne of grace?
2. What are some barriers that prevent us from confidently approaching Jesus, and how can we overcome them?

Experiencing Jesus' Compassion:

1. Reflect on a time when you felt Jesus' compassion and empathy in your life. How did it impact your faith journey?
2. How can we extend the same compassion and empathy we receive from Jesus to others in our community?

Living in Light of Jesus' Priesthood:

1. How does understanding Jesus as our eternal High Priest influence the way we live our daily lives?
2. In what ways can we remind ourselves of Jesus' ongoing intercession and support as we face challenges?

Group Prayer Prompt:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for sending Jesus as our great High Priest who understands our weaknesses and offers us grace and mercy. We are grateful that He tasted death for everyone, fulfilling the role of High Priest in a way that no one else could. Help us to approach Your throne with confidence, trusting in Your love and compassion. May we be transformed by Your truth and empowered to extend Your grace to others. Guide us in our discussions and deepen our understanding of Your Word. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.