

Small Group Study Hebrews 9

A suggested format for your group time

- Fellowship
- Prayer
 - *Lost | Unchurched
 - *Needs of Group Members
 - *Needs of Friends & Family
 - *Other Needs (community, church, country/leaders, mission partnerships, etc.)

A note about 'prayer request etiquette' - be sensitive to whether or not the person who is making the request wishes for it to stay in Small Group or if they prefer for the church at large to be praying (in which case, please submit the request at coralhillbaptist.com/thisweek or turn in requests directly to Vera: 270-670-1023).

- Study (see below)

*To give your group the best possible chance for robust, text-based discussion, send some sort of reminder during the week of the text that you will be looking at and encourage your folks to read/study beforehand

*Utilize the Small Group Leader Guide we provide each week

Book Summary

Hebrews is a book written by an unknown author to Jewish believers facing both persecution and the temptation to revert back to Judaism. Christ is presented as better than the angels, Moses, the Law, and the sacrificial system, and therefore, worthy of their full devotion and worship. While the Gospels speak of what Jesus did while on earth, Hebrews declares what Jesus is currently doing in heaven. He is Heaven's High Priest interceding for us!

Hebrews 9:1-28

Chapter Summary:

The earthly tabernacle which Moses built was divided into two sanctuaries. The first sanctuary was known as the Holy Place where the table of showbread, golden lampstand, and the altar of incense was located. The second sanctuary was called the Holy of Holies where only the High Priest could enter once a year to offer a sacrifice for the sins of the nation. Although sins were covered, their conscience was not cleared. Jesus as our High Priest, entered the heavenly sanctuary and offered His own blood as a once and for all sacrifice. A person's last will and testament does not go into effect until they have died. The terms of the New Testament when Jesus died. Jesus then rose from the dead to become the executor of His own will!

Key Idea: Jesus is the full and final sacrifice that secures our eternal salvation.

Jumpstart Questions: (These questions are designed to generate discussion and to help your group make a connection between everyday life and biblical truth. Please feel free to use any, all, none, or make up your own questions to initiate class conversations.)

- What is significant about the date April 15th? How do you feel about paying taxes? What would you think if someone told you that your tax bill had been fully paid for the rest of your life?
- Can you describe the feeling a person may have when they make the final payment on their car or payment on a 30-year mortgage on their home?
- How do you think a Jewish believer would feel knowing that Jesus provided the final sacrifice for his sins and he no longer needed to bring his yearly sacrificial lamb?

Suggested outline for reading the text and using the Process of Discipleship questions

1. Ask volunteers to read a portion of the chapter (**Hebrews 9:1-10**) and then have the group make general observations using the first two diagnostic questions.
 - What is something you like in this passage?
 - Is there anything in this passage that you find difficult to understand?
2. Follow the same pattern for the following sections of Scripture (**Hebrews 9:11-15**; **Hebrews 9:16-22**; **Hebrews 9:23-28**).
3. Once general observations have been made, ask a volunteer to re-read the entire passage in either the same translation or a different translation so that the entire text is in view. Follow the reading with the remainder discipleship questions.
 - What is something this passage reveals about God (God the Father, God the Son and/or God the Holy Spirit)? **How would you answer if this was the only chapter of Scripture you had ever read?*
 - What is something this passage shows us about the nature of Man? Are there any good or bad examples to learn from?
 - Is there a command to obey or a principle to follow in this passage?
 - Is there a specific sin mentioned or exemplified in this passage?
 - Are there any faith-building promises to trust in this passage?
 - What is at least one-way God's Spirit is using this passage to personally encourage, teach, admonish, and/or correct you as you seek to live more like Christ (2 Timothy 3:16-17)?
 - What is one specific thing you can ask God to help you do in response to this passage between now and next week? **This about different ways the truth of this text could be applied*