

## Growth Group Questions from Sunday, January 26 - Hebrews 8

Remember, if you miss Sunday, the sermon is posted soon after, usually by Sunday night.

\*Read Hebrews 8

- 1) Are there any changes in your life you can point to before you knew Christ and now that you know Christ that show that you have had a change of heart and mind after your salvation? It's ok if you'd rather share of a more recent work that God is doing in your heart and mind, a story of recent growth rather than compared to before salvation (it's still an evidence of God's grace working in your life and changing you!).
- 2) What are some possible reasons that the writer of Hebrews keeps mentioning that Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father? (see 8:1)
- 3) What are some ways the old covenant and the earthly priesthood anticipate the new covenant and a superior priest? Why do we need a superior covenant and priest?
- 4) Why does the writer of Hebrews never talk negatively about the Old Covenant in a disparaging way, all the while showing that Jesus' salvation in the New Covenant is better and the fulfillment? How does knowing that the Law was good increase our awe of Jesus and the New Covenant?
- 5) \*Read Hebrews 8:6. We are going to look at these better promises that are ours in the New Covenant. Out of the 3 "Better Promises" that Pastor Tim saw in Hebrews 8:10-12, which one speaks to you most powerfully at this season in your life?

The 3 better promises are:

- a) The Holy Spirit's internal ministry! (Hebrews 8:10a, 11)
  - b) God's close presence and relationship! (Hebrews 8:10b)
  - c) Full wiping out of sins! (Hebrews 8:12)
- 6) Look at better promise #1 and read Hebrews 8:10-11. Why is it better to not only know God's laws, but to also have a change of heart and mind? In other words, what is the difference between being told we should do something and being told but also given a change of heart and mind (think of the lion illustration)?
  - 7) Look at better promise #2 and read Hebrews 8:10b. Pastor Tim went through God's presence being with the people in the Temple, then God's presence being with the people in Jesus on earth, and then God's presence being IN the people through the indwelling Holy Spirit. How does this give us assurance that we belong to Him?
  - 8) Look at better promise #3 and read Hebrews 8:12. How is God not remembering our sins significant, especially compared to how we as humans struggle to forgive?