

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, December 4, 2005

Passage: Hebrews 5:1-10

Memory Passage: Romans 8:17 **TODAY:** *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 5:1-3.** What are the requirements for a high priest mentioned in these verses?
- (b) In what ways are these *similar* qualifications for elders? Compare 1 Peter 5:1-4. In what way is the role of the high priest different from that of an elder/pastor? Why is this?
- (c) How does Jesus qualify as a High Priest for us (compare Hebrews 1:3; 2:14-18; 4:14-16)?
- (d) What are some reasons why we should be *more willing* to come to this High Priest?
- (e) Who are the “priests” in the New Covenant (Revelation 1:6; 5:10; 20:6)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 5:1-3 and 1 Peter 5:1-4. Talk about the differences between a pastor/elder and a priest. Why were priests needed in the Old Testament? What does a priest do? How is Jesus our perfect High Priest? Do we need any other priests? Spend some time praying for those who lead you spiritually.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 5:1-4 again.** How is Jesus *different* from all other high priests (Leviticus 9:7)?
- (b) What do we learn about Jesus (Hebrews 4:14-16; 9:26)? How does this make him a better high priest?
- (c) Compare the compassion of Jesus with that of even the best priest. What evidences of this did we see in the ministry of Jesus (Luke 18:15-17; Matthew 9:36; 14:14; Mark 1:40-42, etc.)?
- (d) **Read Hebrews 4-6.** What does verse 4 tell us about the qualification of a high priest? How do we see this in the ministry of Jesus (John 5:30, 34; 3:27-36; 7:16-18; 8:54-55)?
- (e) Who appointed Jesus as High Priest? Read Psalm 2:7 and 110:4. What does this tell us about his appointment? Why is this important?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 5:1-4 and Luke 18:15-17 and Mark 1:40-42. Discuss the differences between Jesus and other priests. Why is he a better priest? Talk about his care and compassion for all that come to him. Spend some time thanking Jesus for his love, and care and compassion toward you.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 5:7-8.** What does “in the days of his flesh” indicate (Romans 8:3; Galatians 4:4; 1 Timothy 3:16)? What aspect of his priesthood has the writer been talking about? What does he focus on in these verses?
- (b) To what specific incident might the writer be referring (Matthew 26:36-46; John 12:27)? Was Jesus’ greatest concern physical or something else? What was the “cup” that he spoke about?
- (c) How is this a prophetic fulfillment for the Messiah (Isaiah 53:3, 11)? *Why* was he heard? What does this mean for us in our praying (James 5:16-18)?
- (d) Did the sonship of Jesus *exempt him* from the struggles that we have to go through? What was God’s testimony about the obedience of His son (Matthew 3:17; 17:5)?
- (e) How can suffering *teach us* obedience? What kind of obedience is being referred to (cp. Matthew 26:39, 42)?

(f) *Family*: Read Hebrews 5:7-8 and Matthew 26:36-46. Talk together about what Jesus went through in the garden. What does his prayer tell us about his love for us? What does his struggle tell us about the seriousness of our sin? What does his prayer teach us about obedience and submission to God's will in our own lives? Pray that each might desire to please God by obeying Him.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Hebrews 5:9-11.** Verse 9 transitions to another aspect of Jesus' life and ministry. What is the writer referring to in these verses?

(b) What does the idea of being "perfected" indicate? Was something lacking in Jesus? What does the word "perfect" usually mean in the NT (John 17:4)?

(c) Why is he called the "author" of eternal salvation? What does this tell us about who Jesus is?

(d) Why can his salvation be "eternal?" Consider Hebrews 7:23-28 and 10:11-14.

(e) Why does he say "to all who *obey* him?" How is *obedience* part of the gospel (Romans 1:5; 15:17-19; 2 Thessalonians 1:8)?

(f) *Family*: Read Hebrews 5:9-11 and Isaiah 53:3-6. Discuss the salvation that Jesus provided for us. Why is it eternal? Does it matter if Jesus is not God? Why is his sacrifice enough that he only had to offer it one time for everyone? Pray together for someone who does not know about Jesus or has not accepted his free gift of eternal life.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Romans 8:26-30.** What do verses 26-27 tell us about what the Holy Spirit is doing for us in our struggles?

(b) What is God's promise to all believers in their struggles? What kinds of things will He work for good?

(c) *Why* does He allow difficulties in our lives (Romans 8:29)?

(d) What kinds of difficulties did these early Christians face (Romans 8:36-39; Hebrews 10:32-34)? How does Paul encourage them to stand strong in their faith? How does the writer of Hebrews encourage his readers (Hebrews 10:35-36; 12:1-2)?

(e) What attitude must we have to enable us to face any difficulty God allows (Romans 8:17)?

(f) *Family*: Read Romans 8:26-39. Discuss how God uses sufferings to shape us to be more like Jesus. What does God do for us when we are suffering? How does His love for us help us to know that whatever he is allowing is best for us? Review your memory verse together and pray that God will help each of you see that the sufferings we experience are nothing in comparison to the reward we will receive (Romans 8:17).

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Hebrews 5:1-10. What are the responsibilities and qualifications of a priest? How does Jesus meet all of these qualifications? How is he better than all other priests? What can we learn about his sufferings for our sake? What do we learn about how we should face suffering ourselves? Pray for the persecuted churches in the world who will be meeting tomorrow even though they experience many sufferings for the sake of Christ.