

TCC Community Guide

For the week of April 7, 2024
Greater Than: A Series in Hebrews

Before working through this Guide, ensure everyone has listened to the teaching from April 7, 2024.

As your group transitions into a time of being present to God and one another, allow space for transition through quiet and reflection. Have everyone take a prayerful posture, slowly read the verse provided (perhaps a couple of times), allow for 30-60s of silence, and commit the time together to the Lord in prayer. Tonight's reflective reading: 1 Peter 1:3, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Content Overview:

Read aloud together, Hebrews 6:4-12. Pastor Steve taught on this passage, highlighting the following:

- There are several warning and promise passages throughout the Bible. This Hebrews passage is one of them where the author uses a strong warning and pairs it with a promise, seeking to spur his audience on to good works, to faith in and life with Jesus.
- The intent of this warning is not to scare the audience into being good, yet to encourage them in their perseverance.
- The Bible is clear that God is faithful to hold and keep us; our salvation is secure. This passage speaks of those who have "tasted" and "shared" in the things of God, who appear to be Christian on the outside, but are not walking with Jesus. In the case of Hebrews, this is likely those who fell back into Judaism, deciding against Jesus as their Messiah or Saviour.
- Those the passage are referring to are not ignorant about Jesus, but in knowing who He is have chosen to reject him
- This passage is a call to persevere in our faith in and love for Jesus. We should not be able to, nor want to taste the goodness of God, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and then decide, "actually, nevermind."
- This passage is a reminder to examine our own hearts and evaluate our own commitment to Christ.
- 6:7-8 teaches that our faith should lead to action and that action should be evidenced by fruitfulness. Those who have dedicated their lives to Jesus should be actively engaging in the great commission.
- 6:9-12 The promise of eternal life with God, life after we pass from this short time on earth, the promise of salvation from sin is ours if we can have faith and patience like the many who have come and gone before us. We must place our faith and trust in Jesus and put effort into our relationship with Jesus. As we do this we will experience the goodness of God; His rest and love for us.

Discussion Questions:

1. What has resonated with you most from this message and Hebrews 6:4-12?
2. How do you respond when you read warning passages in scripture? What do they teach you about the character of God?
3. What obstacles do you experience in your life which tempt you to be lazy in your relationship with Jesus?
4. In what ways do you see yourself living out the great commission (Matthew 28:19-20)?

End in Prayer: Invite the group to additional sharing. What are people celebrating these days, what would they like prayer for? Take time to hear prayer requests or testimonies of praise from the group. Give all of these back to the Lord in prayer.

