

# TCC Community Guide

For the week of April 28, 2024  
Greater Than: A Series in Hebrews

*Before working through this Guide, ensure everyone has listened to the teaching from April 28, 2024.*

*Tonight's reflective reading Psalm 126:2-3, "Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy... The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy."*

## Content Overview:

*Read aloud together, Hebrews 7:11-28. Pastor Adam taught on this passage, highlighting the following:*

- Hebrews chapter 7 seeks to teach that the Melchizedek priesthood prepared the way for a new, non-Levitical priesthood established by God. Pastor Adam suggests considering the questions or objections potentially raised by the Author's audience to better understand the section.
- V11,12. Objection 1: Jesus isn't needed because the Law is perfect (when we read "perfect" think complete). The author responds: While the old testament law already establishes a priesthood, the law also anticipates a coming messiah. Psalm 110, referenced by Hebrews anticipates that the coming priesthood would be different than the priesthood of the Old Testament.
- Vs13-19 - Objection 2: Jesus doesn't qualify because he is from the wrong tribe. In the Old Testament, to be a priest one had to be born of the tribe of Levi. The author responds: the Melchizedek priesthood gives a way for a qualification based not on lineage, but of having an "indestructible life". The life of Melchizedek's priesthood was not destroyed or ended because it was never passed along or taken by another. So too, Jesus, the resurrected, eternal one qualifies on the basis of His eternal nature.
- Vs20-22 - Objection 3: Jesus can't just start his own priesthood. The author responds: Psalm 110 confirms that Jesus did not establish the priesthood by his own ambition, rather it was God who established it.
- 23-24 - Objection 4: Is Jesus just a temporary fill in? The author responds: While former priests were cycled through, Jesus' priesthood is eternal. He and His role as priest is never going away.
- 26-28 Objection 5: Is Jesus actually able to help me? The author responds: Yes, Jesus is more than qualified, in character, ability, and for eternity.
- The concept of priests seems ancient to us, however, we all seek mediation in times of need. Hebrews 7 invites us to consider where we go for help and invites us to trust that Jesus is qualified and able to help us in our times of need.
- We can respond to this chapter by committing to walk with Jesus and know his company and help.
  - We should resist compartmentalizing spiritual aspect of our lives from those that seem less spiritual. Walking with Jesus doesn't make these distinctions. Jesus invites us to live a life abided in Him, experiencing His company throughout the day and seeking His guidance constantly.
- We should be aware of the temptation we have to limit God to our own understanding. Sometimes God will work in ways we don't understand or initially agree with. We should trust in God's ways even if they don't seem to make sense to us at the time. This is perhaps what this early congregation had to do in relation to Jesus' priesthood.

## Discussion Questions:

1. What has resonated with you most from this message and Hebrews 7?
2. We too can object to Jesus role as our helper. Which of the above "objections" are relatable to you? How have you avoided Jesus' help in times of trouble and what objection may it be reflective of?
3. How might you (or do you) keep company with Jesus throughout your day?
4. Is there something in the Bible or that God is leading you into that just doesn't makes sense to you? How might you be encouraged towards obedience?

**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.

