

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with  
one another in our homes

## Heb. 8 What's New– Will

In this chapter, the author of Hebrews says what the point of these last few chapters clearly; “Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man” (Heb. 8:1-2). Jesus is the high priest of a new and better covenant, one where the Law is written on our hearts instead of on tablets of stone so that we no longer need to work for our salvation but can rest on the completed work of Christ. In the New Covenant, the Holy Spirit also lives inside of every believer, circumcising our hearts, reminding us of God’s Word, and empowering us to share the gospel.

### Discussion Questions:

1. God’s Covenants are a very important theme throughout Scripture, such that it’s hard to understand any passage without knowing what a covenant is and what God has promised through them. Discuss what a covenant is, not just its dictionary definition but how it’s used throughout the Bible and how it affects us today. Specifically, what is the Old Covenant (also called the Law, the Mosaic Covenant, or the Sinaitic Covenant) and the New Covenant?
2. Heb. 8 tells us that “Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better” (8:6), but how is Jesus’ work in the New Covenant better than the work of the priests in the Old Covenant? See Heb. 10:11-14 for the answer. What does it mean that Christ “sat down” in this passage? How is this good news for us?
3. If Jesus has perfected (completed) us through his sacrifice on the cross (Heb. 10:14), then what is left for us to do for our salvation? Answer: absolutely nothing. Why do we still try to work for our salvation (by working to earn favor with God or by punishing ourselves or by one of the many other ways we try to do Jesus’ job). What truths from God’s Word can we remind ourselves and others about to remind us not to work for the salvation Jesus has already purchased by his blood?
4. Will’s final point was the hard-hitting, “The Holy Spirit lives inside of you, so live like it.” The presence of the Holy Spirit in every believer is one of the key differences between the Old and New Covenants. What does it mean to live like we have the Holy Spirit within us (try Gal. 5:16-26 for help)? More importantly, since this is *community* group, how can we help each other live this way? Brainstorm specific ways your group can help one another. If you can’t think of anything, try getting lunch one-on-one or in smaller groups sometime this week to read Scripture and pray for each other.