

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: August 6th, 2023

Title: Jesus is the better Moses

Text: Hebrews Chapter 3 (full chapter)

Sermon/Questions by John Brewer

In Hebrews Chapter 3, the writer begins by showing that Jesus is a better Moses. He then quotes Psalm 95, which describes Israel's refusal to enter the promised land and God's resulting punishment of them. Namely, they were not allowed to enter the promised land for 40 years (allowing everyone over 20 years old to die in the wilderness). With Psalm 95 and the sin nature of mankind in mind, the writer encourages the church to take care, to exhort one another, and to hold fast to our original confidence.

Outline

Main Point: Jesus is the better Moses and provides a better Exodus

- Jesus is the better Moses
 - Humans are prone to rebel
 - How we respond to these truths
 - o Pay attention (Take care)
 - o Be the church (Exhort one another)
 - o Cling to the gospel (hold our original confidence)
1. After being freed from slavery in Egypt, in one of their most deplorable moments, while waiting for Moses at the base of Mount Sinai, the Israelites forged a golden calf and sacrificed to it. One of John Calvin's famous quotes says "*The human mind (human nature) is, so to speak, a perpetual factory (forge) of idols.*" Are we, the contemporary church, prone to idolatry? If so, to what forms of idolatry are we most prone? Don't just throw stones at society here. That's too easy and not the target audience of the writer. Consider the church comprised of professing believers and even our church body.
 2. What points does the writer of Hebrews make to show that Jesus is a better Moses? Why is it important that he makes this contrast before laying out his petition to the church to "take care" (v12)? What does it mean to "take care?" In what other ways (besides idolatry) are we prone to wander?
 3. Why do we "exhort" (encourage) one another? Why is "good luck" not a very useful encouragement for a fellow believer? In other words, what is the object or end goal of our encouragement? Consider encouraging one another in real-time in your Community Group.

4. What is our “original hope” and how do we “hold fast” to it (v6,v14)? (Reference Jude 24, Phil 1:6). Why is Jesus’ “Exodus” better than that of Moses? What specific Bible stories or passages do you find especially encourage or convict you to hold fast to your original hope?

Challenge: There are likely some exhortations you could offer that are more personal and your community group meeting may not be the best setting to offer them. You may also have exhortations for someone outside of our church body. Pray through those and set a goal to communicate those. Don’t assume that a brother or sister “has it all together” and doesn’t need to hear it.