

FINDING TRUE J.O.Y. = Jesus, Others, & You

Hebrews 3:1-19

JESUS IS BETTER THAN MOSES

- “For Jesus is considered worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder has more honor than the house...5 Moses was faithful as a servant in all God’s household, as a testimony to what would be said in the future. 6 But Christ was faithful as a Son over His household. And we are that household if we hold on to our confidence and the hope in which we boast.” (Hebrews 3:3-6)
- **Moses was a servant IN God’s household (the Israelites), but Jesus is OVER God’s household (followers of Jesus).**
- **Like the Israelites being set free from slavery in Egypt, Jesus sets us free from the shackles of sin.**

THE PATHWAY TO MATURITY IS THROUGH TRIALS

- “7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: **Today, if you hear His voice, 8 do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, 9 where your ancestors tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works 10 for forty years. Therefore I was provoked to anger with that generation and said, ‘They always go astray in their hearts, and they have not known My ways.’ 11 So I swore in My anger, ‘They will not enter My rest.’” (Hebrews 3:7-11)**
- **When we lean into and trust Jesus during our trials we develop endurance to remain faithful and to be an overcomer.**
- “Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.” (James 1:2-4)

WE NEED TO ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER TO REMAIN FAITHFUL

- “Watch out, brothers and sisters, so that there won’t be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the

living God. 13 But encourage each other daily, while it is still called **today**, so that none of you is hardened by sin’s deception. 14 For we have become participants in Christ if we hold firmly until the end the reality that we had at the start.” (Hebrews 3:12-14)

- “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up as you are already doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- **When we are isolated and trying to overcome the struggles of life on our own, we are vulnerable to “sin’s deception,” but when we stand together and support one another we can live victoriously.**
- “Brothers and sisters, if someone is overtaken in any wrongdoing, you who are spiritual, restore such a person with a gentle spirit, watching out for yourselves so that you also won’t be tempted. 2 Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:1-2)
- “Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. 10 For if either falls, his companion can lift him up; but pity the one who falls without another to lift him up...12 And if someone overpowers one person, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not easily broken.” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12)
- **Trying to do things on our own without accountability and encouragement leads to rebellion against God and His principles.**
- “**Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.** 16 For who heard and rebelled? Wasn’t it all who came out of Egypt under Moses? 17 With whom was God angry for forty years? Wasn’t it with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, if not to those who disobeyed? 19 So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.” (Heb. 3:1-19)
- **God created us to be in relationship with one another, to support one another, and to accomplish His Kingdom work together.**

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION

Observation

- What is the significance of the comparison of Moses and Jesus?
- What does Hebrews 3 tell us about trials and struggles in life?
- What does Hebrews 3 teach us about our relationship to other Christians? About the Church?

Understanding

- In what ways does Jesus set us free? How does that impact your view of Jesus?
- What are some areas/ways you have been set free?
- How are you doing with embracing trials and struggles with an understanding of spiritual growth?
- What are some Scriptures that can help you/others when you go through trials?
- Why is fellowship and community with other brothers and sisters in Christ so important?
- How does continued isolation and separation from other brothers and sisters in Christ hinder our spiritual growth? How are you doing at being an encourager to your fellow Christian family members?

Loving Outward:

- Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
- Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
- Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?