

## Our Great High Priest

This week we are looking at Jesus as our High Priest.

*Hebrews 4:14–16*

*[14] Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. [15] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (ESV)*

We need a priest because sin created a separation between God and us. Think about question 1 as you look up and take a minute to read through Job 9 to yourself.

- 1) As Job cries out, you can see the pain of our separation from God. What are some of the things that Job notices? Can you identify similar realities in your own life?**

Job cries out for a mediator – someone who both understands him and will be for him, yet can stand before God in a way that he himself can't. Jesus is uniquely qualified to do what is needed for Job – and us.

- 2) What makes Jesus unique and different from the OT**

One of the primary roles of a priest was to make offering for the sins of the people. Because of who Jesus was, he was able to make atonement in a way no one else could. Look at Hebrews 10 as we think about these questions.

- 3) What was different about the sacrifice Jesus made versus all the others?**
- 4) We don't make animal sacrifices anymore, but are there ways we can act like we are part of that old system (penance)? Where do you specifically struggle with this?**

Jesus finished completely the atonement for our sin, but His priestly work for us continues as He advocates for before the Father (see Hebrews 9:24 and 1 John 2:1).

- 5) What does it mean to have Jesus as your advocate? How does that shape the way you think about things like temptation, failure, suffering?**

PRAY

- Thank God for the atoning work of Jesus and his continual defense of us.
- Pray for our church, that God would keep us pursuing the right things and increase our love for each other and the world around us.
- Pray for each other: thanking God for His provision, giving our cares to Him and each other, and falling on His mercy and grace for our sin and failure.