SING A NEW SONG Part 2: Before the Throne of God Above

Objective: To remind us that Jesus stands in our defense and that His righteousness transforms us, making us more like him.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has <u>ascended</u> into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to <u>empathize</u> with our weaknesses, but we have <u>one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with <u>confidence</u>, so that we may receive mercy and find <u>grace</u> to <u>help</u> us in our time of need.</u>

Hebrews 4:14-16

...you are in <u>Christ Jesus</u>, who has <u>become</u> for us wisdom from God—that is, our <u>righteousness</u>, <u>holiness</u> and <u>redemption</u>.

I Corinthians 1:30

- Have you ever been afraid to approach someone because you knew you had said or done something wrong, especially something that wronged them? How (if ever) did you get past that? What happened that allowed you to approach them again?
- Have you ever had someone defend you (or have you ever had to defend someone) even if you (or they) were wrong? What was that like?
- According to Hebrews 4, Jesus can *empathize* with us. He has been tempted in every way that we have. How does that make you feel? Does that change how you approach him with your needs, hurts and sins? How or Why?
- Jesus advocates for us before God the Father. Does that impact how you pray? If so, how?
- What does it mean to you that we can approach the "throne of grace with confidence?"

Consider this week:

• Because of his amazing grace, Jesus speaks on our behalf. As you pray this week, keep that in mind and pray with confidence.

Final Thought: Whatever you have said or done that is indefensible, remember that Jesus paid for it and stands before the Father on your behalf so that you can approach God confidently.

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