

LEADERS WHO POINT TO JESUS

Small Group Guide | Week of October 11
Hebrews 13:7-9; 17

BIG IDEA: When we are tempted to drift from Jesus, God gives us what we need to hold on

READ TOGETHER: *Hebrews 13:7-9 & Hebrews 13:17*

Think of someone whose faith you got to watch up close. What did you learn from them that you never heard in a sermon?

LEADERS TO IMITATE (v. 7)

Verse 7 challenges us to imitate faith, not personalities. What is the difference and why does it matter?

Discipleship = time. Preaching is the *air war* while personal growth happens on the ground. Discuss this analogy and ways you can be engaged in each.

JESUS WHO NEVER CHANGES (v. 8)

It is not unusual for churches to adopt “flavors” (gifts, prosperity, rules, action steps, politics, etc.). Which flavor are you most drawn towards?

How can good things that flow from the gospel slowly start to replace the gospel in our lives?

GRACE THAT STEADIES YOUR HEART (v. 9)

The author of Hebrews mentions “food regulations” as an example of strange teaching. What are examples of teachings today that can lead us astray or make following Jesus more difficult?

Why does living like you are trying to pay Jesus back hinder our relationship with Him instead of strengthening it?

SHEPHERDS WHO KEEP WATCH (v. 17)

Why is submitting to church leaders harder than submitting to God? Why can the opposite also be true?

In the foxhole, someone has to stay awake. Who stays awake for your soul?

What would it look like to make your leaders’ work “a joy” and not “a grief”?

RESPOND AND PRAY

Examine your life and ask the following questions:

1. Who will you watch and imitate?
2. What are you leaning on instead of grace?
3. Who is keeping watch over your soul?