



Main Scripture: Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus is:

The high Priest. (v 14-15)

(Jn 14:6, 3:16; 1 Jn 1:9)

Powerful and merciful. (v 14-15)

(Jn 1:1-2, 14; Heb 1:3, 7:24-26, 4:15)

Drawing us closer.

How can I invite Jesus into my life?

1. Acknowledge that Jesus Christ is the only way to God and that you need Him in your life.

John 14:6, "*I [Jesus] am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.*"

2. Be willing to turn from the things that God would not approve of as outlined in the Bible, and instead, decide to live according to His Word; honour Jesus Christ by how you live your life. (Repentance)

1 John 1:9, "*If we confess our sins to him, he [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.*"

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave and accept His payment on your behalf.

John 3:16, "*For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*"

4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come into your life. Expect the Holy Spirit to live with you, live in you and give you power to live His way.

This prayer enables you to live eternally with Christ in heaven.

Lord Jesus,

I know that I am a sinner and that I need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins and I trust in You alone for my salvation. I choose to turn away from the things in my life of which You don't approve and now surrender my life to You. I invite You to come and reign and rule in my heart and life and open my spirit. Establish Your presence within me. I want to know the power of the Holy Spirit working in me and live forever with You in the Kingdom of God. I choose to trust and follow You as my Lord and Saviour. Amen.

“Developing Confidence” | December 4 & 5, 2021

The Small Group Sermon Study

Hebrews 4:14-16



Opening Prayer: Father, in Jesus’ name, through the Holy Spirit, come and speak to us, teach us and transform us as we read, discuss and reflect on Your word.

Icebreaker: How would you describe your communication style? Are you an internal (thinking) processor or an external (speaking) processor? Share a strength and weakness you’ve noticed in your communication style.

Read the key passages of Scripture from the message and review the points from the sermon notes, then answer the following questions:

1. Pastor Al talks about Jesus as being our Great High Priest. Jesus is the mediator between God and humanity. What does it mean to you that Jesus is your mediator? Have you thought of Him in this way before? Why or why not?
2. **Hebrews 4:15** tells us that Jesus empathizes with us. *“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin.”*

What does it mean to you that Jesus empathizes with your weaknesses? Do you think Jesus really understands your temptations? Why or why not?

3. Pastor Al tells us that Jesus extends to us mercy and grace in our weakness. Mercy is the withholding of punishment that is deserved. Grace is the bestowing of favour that is undeserved. What does it mean to you that Jesus extends mercy and grace to you? Do you find this difficult or easy to receive?
4. Pastor Al talks about how we can boldly approach God’s throne of grace. He mentions good communication as a way to do this.
 - What would you say are your biggest strengths and weaknesses in communicating with God?
 - Do you feel confident in prayer? Why or why not?
 - How can we help each other as a small group to grow in this?

Personal Reflection:

1. Spend a few minutes in listening prayer, asking God the following: “Holy Spirit ...
 - Is there anything in my life that is a barrier between you and me today?”
 - Is there any truth that you want me to know so that my confidence in approaching the throne of grace grows?”
2. How will you respond to what God is showing you?

Closing Prayer: Spend time praying for one another (that we would grow in our love for God and others, that we would be transformed by what God has revealed, that we would be alert and obedient to God, etc.).