

Small Group Discussion Guide

"Perfectly Saved Forever" - Hebrews 10:1-18

Opening Prayer

Begin your time together by asking God to open hearts and minds to understand His Word and apply it to your lives.

Ice Breaker

Share a time when you thought a "picture" or "symbol" of something was the real thing (a toy car, a photo of food, etc.). How did you feel when you realized it wasn't the actual item?

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. Animal Sacrifices Were Shadows, Not the Reality

- Old Testament sacrifices were pictures that trained people to understand: no blood, no forgiveness
- They had no actual power to forgive sins
- All Old Testament believers were saved by looking forward to the cross, just as we look back to it

2. Believers Are Sanctified (Set Apart) Through Christ

- Sanctification means being set apart for God's holy purposes
- We are both legally sanctified (declared holy) and practically sanctified (growing in holiness)
- God writes His laws on our hearts, not just stone tablets

3. Jesus Perfects All Broken Things

- The one sacrifice of Jesus perfected forever those who believe

- Jesus fixes broken marriages, addictions, rebellious children, and every other brokenness
- Satan destroys; Jesus perfects

4. Old Covenant Sacrifices Are Forever Obsolete

- Jesus' sacrifice was once and for all
 - No additional sacrifices or good works are needed
 - We are justified (declared "just as if we'd never sinned") by faith alone
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Discussion Questions

Understanding the Message

- 1. The Shadow vs. The Reality**
 - Why do you think God used animal sacrifices as "shadows" instead of just waiting to reveal Jesus?
 - How does understanding that Old Testament sacrifices were pictures change the way you read the Old Testament?
- 2. The Power of "It Is Finished"**
 - What does it mean to you personally that Jesus said "It is finished" on the cross?
 - How is this different from a religious system that requires continual sacrifices or works?

Personal Application

- 3. Sanctification in Your Life**
 - The pastor mentioned we are "justified, sanctified, and will be glorified." Where do you see evidence of sanctification (being set apart and growing) in your own life?
 - Share an area where you're struggling between living for the world and living set apart for God.
- 4. Brokenness and Perfection**
 - The pastor said, "Whatever the ailment is, the cure is Jesus." What broken area of your life do you need to "put some Jesus in"?
 - Have you seen Jesus perfect something broken in your life or someone else's? Share that testimony.
- 5. The Danger of Adding to the Gospel**
 - In what ways might Christians today try to add to what Jesus did (good works, religious activities, etc.)?
 - How can we guard against trusting in "Jesus plus something else" instead of Jesus alone?

Going Deeper

6. The Conviction of the Holy Spirit

- The sermon mentioned that conviction from the Holy Spirit is evidence we belong to God. How do you distinguish between the Spirit's conviction and condemnation from the enemy?
- Share a time when the Holy Spirit convicted you and it led to positive change.

7. Forever Forgiven

- Read Psalm 103:12 and Micah 7:19 together. What do these verses teach us about how completely God forgives?
 - Why do Christians sometimes struggle to believe their sins are truly forgiven? How can we help each other embrace this truth?
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Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

Choose one of the following to practice this week:

Option 1: Identify Your "Shadows"

- Make a list of things you might be trusting in addition to Jesus for your salvation or standing with God (good behavior, church attendance, being better than others, etc.)
- Confess these to God and recommit to trusting in Christ alone

Option 2: Bring Your Brokenness to Jesus

- Identify one broken area in your life (marriage, parenting, addiction, finances, etc.)
- Spend time in prayer each day specifically asking Jesus to perfect this area
- Share your struggle with one trusted Christian friend for accountability

Option 3: Study Old Testament Sacrifices

- Read Leviticus 16 (the Day of Atonement) or another sacrifice passage
- Make notes on how these sacrifices point to Jesus
- Share what you learned with the group next week

Option 4: Memorize Scripture

- Memorize Hebrews 10:14: "For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."
- Reflect on what it means that you are "perfected forever" while also "being sanctified"

Group Ministry Time

Prayer Requests

Take time to share specific prayer needs, especially related to:

- Areas of brokenness that need Jesus' perfecting touch
- Struggles with believing you're truly forgiven
- Addictions or habitual sins
- Relationships that need restoration

Accountability Questions

- Is there an area where you're trusting in something other than Jesus alone?
- What broken thing do you need to surrender to Jesus this week?
- How can we pray for you and check in with you before we meet again?

Closing Prayer

Pray together:

- Thank God for the once-and-for-all sacrifice of Jesus
- Ask for deeper understanding that we are perfectly saved forever
- Pray for specific brokenness in group members' lives
- Ask the Holy Spirit to continue sanctifying each person

For Next Week

- Read Hebrews 10:19-39 in preparation for the next sermon
- Follow through on your practical application commitment
- Be ready to share what God taught you this week

Leader Notes:

- Create a safe environment where people can be honest about struggles

- Remind the group that conviction leads to repentance and freedom, not shame
- If someone shares about serious addiction or brokenness, connect them with pastoral care
- Celebrate testimonies of God's transforming power in people's lives