

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Overview

Sermon: *Greater Covenant*. Bottom line: *The new covenant promises a new relationship.*

“This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts.” – Hebrews 8:10

They don't even make VHS/VCR players anymore. Japanese manufacturer Funai Electric stopped producing devices in the Summer of 2016 and surprisingly (surprisingly late) Sony stopped producing video tapes in Betamax format in 2015. This being 13 years after DVD's surpassed VHS sales in 2002. Although DVD's still have a lot of life left in them, streaming and download services have surpassed them and they will one day share the same fate as CD's. Remember those?

The point is, whatever technology is popular today will become obsolete in the future. It will advance and improve because even though it was needed for its time it has a shelf life. It is temporary. In Hebrews 8-9 the writer says the same thing about the Mosaic/Sinai covenant. It's obsolete. Now, through Jesus, God has given us something new.

Discussion

1. Describe something that you loved to use but has now become obsolete. Why did you love it and what eventually replaced it. How has what replaced it better?
2. Hebrews 8 says that Jesus is the mediator of a better covenant built on better promises. From verses 7-13 (Jeremiah's prophecy), describe those better promises. What makes them better? What would you add to this description based off what you know about Jesus and God's word?
3. What's the difference between knowing God and knowing about God? How have you experienced both? Why does God want you to know him? What role does Jesus play?
4. From Hebrews 9:13-14. How did the old covenant point us toward the need for a savior? How does the new covenant remove barriers and supply us with the power to make the journey? How would you further describe the difference between the two?

Application

5. How can the church be guilty of promoting an outward form of Christianity? Why would this be a weak witness?
6. How can you better describe faith in God as a relationship and not a religion? Why would this be a more powerful and greater testimony?

Sermon Notes:

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