

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Overview

Sermon: *Greater Minister*. Bottom line: *Jesus gives you direct access to the Father.*

“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” – Hebrews 4:16

Jesus is like other priests and ministers in that he was called by God. He acts on behalf of mankind. He is sympathetic to our temptation, sin, and hardships. He deals with our ignorance and waywardness gently. He is aware of his own dependence on God and gives his life to prayer and the pursuit of God’s will. Like the Levitical High Priest who would make atonement for his fellow Israelites once a year. Jesus’ sacrifice was for others. But unlike a Levitical High Priest he did not offer a sacrifice for his own sin nor did he offer multiple sacrifices for the sins of others. He offered himself as the perfect “once for all” sacrifice.

Jesus is our mediator before God not due to ancestry but on the “basis of power and an indestructible life” (7:16). Do you want an indestructible, incorruptible faith? Put your trust in Jesus.

Discussion

1. Share with each other a time in your life where you have experienced a slow fading of your faith. What factors led to the slow fade? Describe a time in your life where you thought your faith was flourishing. What does a faith that is on fire for God look like?
2. From Hebrews 4:14-16. Why can we have confidence to approach God? Why do Christians sometimes shy away from describing their relationship with God as confident? How does approaching God with confidence make a difference in our relationship with Him?
3. From Hebrews 5:1-10 & ch. 7. How is Jesus’ priesthood described? How is it different than the Levitical priesthood? What does this teach us about his ability to save us and lead us? How does Jesus give us direct access to God? Why is this important?
4. “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” – 1 Peter 2:9. Why are Jesus followers described as a royal priesthood? What are they to minister to the world?

Application

5. Our neighbors need people who choose to never give up their pursuit of growing more in their love and knowledge of Jesus. How might you choose to regain a laser focus in trusting Jesus, increasing your love for God and others? What needs to change?
6. Pray for people who may have lost their focus or who lack faith. Who can you choose to contact this week to give encouragement?

Sermon Notes:

OCTOBER 21, 2018

