

Sermon Discussion Guide 04.21.24 Message | Tyler Myers | Hebrews 5:11-6:12

Key Scripture (ESV):

About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits. For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt. For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation. For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do. And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

- Hebrews 5:11-6:12

Message Highlights:

- This message reveals a third warning: dull learning causes dead leading!
- Tyler uses three main heading points to help us through the warning:
 - Indictment (Hebrews 5:11-14): The challenge of being "dull of hearing" and the necessity for progressing beyond basic teachings.
 - Explanation (Hebrews 6:1-8): Urging to advance beyond elementary doctrines with severe warnings against regression.
 - Encouragement (Hebrews 6:9-12): Promises of better outcomes tied to salvation and calls for imitating faith.
- Choices in spiritual listening significantly impact our living, leading to communal listening and living.

CONVERSATION STARTER

• What was the first listening device you owned to play music? Do you still have one? What is the newest device you use for listening to music?

DISCUSS THE MESSAGE

• How has the Spirit spoken to you through this section of God's Word?

THINK DEEPER (Does your group understand the passage?)

- What does it mean to be "dull of hearing" in the context of this passage?
- What factors might contribute to someone becoming "dull of hearing" regarding spiritual teachings, and how can these be addressed?
- Why does the author suggest that the readers should already be teachers?
- What responsibilities do individuals have within their faith community once they reach a certain level of understanding or maturity?
- How does the author distinguish between 'milk' and 'solid food' in terms of spiritual teachings?
- What are some examples of 'milk' and 'solid food' in your own spiritual learning and faith journey?

THINK LIFE CHANGE (Does your group recognize the personal implications for them as individuals?)

- Reflecting on Hebrews 6:1-8, what are the dangers of not progressing in our faith? How does this passage challenge you personally?
- How can we prevent ourselves from becoming spiritually sluggish, as warned in Hebrews 6:12?

THINK ENGAGE (Does your group know how to apply the challenge?)

- How can the lessons from this sermon help you better choose what spiritual teachings to amplify in your life?
- In what practical ways can we apply the challenge of "listening that leads to living" in our community?

THINK KINGDOM (Does your group understand the overarching Kingdom, that the work we do is bigger than ourselves?)

- Considering the overarching message of Hebrews, how does understanding our part in God's Kingdom influence our daily decisions and interactions?
- Through the insights provided in today's sermon, how can we better recognize the Kingdom work in our personal and communal lives?