

The
New
Testament
in a Year

Week 46

Hebrews 2-6

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General Questions for Reflection

You might pick one part of each chapter and think about these questions.

- What does this tell me about God (including Jesus and the Holy Spirit)?
- What does this tell me about our world?
- What does it tell me about me?
- What does it say about following Jesus?
- Is there something here I'd like to learn more about?

Why not use these thoughts to shape your prayer today.

Monday

Hebrews 2

Do you know the story about the guy who waits on his roof for God as the flood waters approach? I too sometimes miss the neighbor, canoe and helicopter that God sends to save me.

What are the signs of God working in my life that I miss?

Why is it so important to understand Jesus' human nature?

The writer of Hebrews stresses three reasons: (1) so that in dying, he could free us from the power of death; (2) so that, by becoming the final sacrifice for sin he could reconcile us to God; and (3) so that in experiencing temptation he can help better help us with our own temptations.

Vs. 12 quotes Psalm 22. Read this psalm and see the fulfillment in the One who shares blood, flesh and death with us and was sent to rescue us.

Tuesday

Hebrews 3

I don't know very much about art of architecture. I do seem to know more about artists and architects and through these creators I know about their creations.

What do we learn about our Creator and Jesus from this chapter?

Psalm 95 refers to the time in the desert as the great bitterness, a time of testing. The people faced the test of whether or not they were going to trust God to provide for them. They in turn put God to the test by demanding signs of his presence and care. Read Psalm 95. Over the next chapters, Hebrews continues to look back as a way to look at today.

When have I been in the desert wandering around waiting for signs? When do I let unbelief stop me from seeing the signs in front of me?

Wednesday

Hebrews 4

Are you good at resting? Our societal values do not put rest as a priority. The concept of rest is central to a Christian life. Two important things happen when we rest. We are able to examine where we've come from and where we're going. When we rest, we are able to look back and see God's hand on our lives and how he has protected and provided for us.

If we only live in the present, we easily become consumed with the pressing issues of everyday life. This often leads us to believe that everything depends on us or those around us. Rest teaches us that everything depends on God.

Take some time to rest and in your rest learn to trust.

Why am I afraid of rest?

How can adding rest to my week bring me closer to God?

Thursday

Hebrews 5

Who is Melchizedek?

He is referred to in two places in the Old Testament: Genesis 14 and Psalm 110. Although a Gentile, Melchizedek worshipped the one true God. In addition to being a priest he was also a king. Like Melchizedek, Jesus is both priest and King.

Read Psalm 2. I find verse 8 to be very interesting. How can this verse add light in my suffering?

Am I a lifelong learner?

Am I making an effort to have teachers in my life?

Do I recognize solid food?

Friday

Hebrews 6

The Message's transliteration of the open verse is

"So come on, let's leave the preschool finger-painting exercise on Christ and get on with the grand work of art. Grow up in Christ"

Growing up can be a painful process. *Do you remember the growing pains of your youth? Would you ever want to back? What about your spiritual growing pains?*

Hebrews reminds us that Christian hope isn't optimism; a vague sense of that things will probably turn out right. Our hope is looking ahead to a time when God will make the world anew, completing the work he began in Jesus.

What does verse 19 mean? (think about the Temple)