

Equipped for Eternity

Lessons from Hebrews Chapters 7 - 13

Couples In Christ, Sunrise Community Church, Winter/Spring 2015

Introduction

We spent the winter of 2013 studying the first six chapters of this book, concluding that as believers we are to be “Grounded for Growth”. We learned to be rooted, anchored, faithful, have resolve, and walk humbly before God. The writer of Hebrews now spells out our position in Christ, teaches us how to worship God, provides the stimulus and motivation to persevere, illustrates faith from several vantage points, and encourages us to live out our faith in practical ways. In short, how to be Equipped for Eternity!

Lesson	Date ±	Concept	Hebrews	Key Thoughts
Lesson 1	2/8/15	POSITION / Anchor	7:1-13	We have a direct link to God through Jesus.
Lesson 2	2/15/15	POSITION / Relationship	7:14-28	Jesus lives forever; He offers a better hope.
Lesson 3	2/22/15	PURIFIED / Promises	8:1-13	“Plan 2” in place with Jesus at the mercy seat.
Lesson 4	3/1/15	WORSHIP / Path	9:1-11	My pattern defines my path toward God.
Lesson 5	3/8/15	WORSHIP / Posture	9:12-28	We live in God’s presence daily.
Lesson 6	3/15/15	PERFECTED / Sacrifice	10:1-17	God’s laws upon my heart and on my mind.
Lesson 7	3/22/15	PERFECTED / Persevere	10:18-39	Stimulated to serve, encourage others.
Lesson 8	3/29/15	FAITH / in Gear	11:1-12	Exercising faith empowers me to do great things.
-	4/5/15	Guest Speaker	-	Lesson from 2 Timothy
Lesson 9	4/12/15	FAITH / Effects	11:13-25	Exercising faith sustains me in all seasons.
Lesson 10	4/19/15	FAITH / Growth	11:26-40	Exercising faith pleases God.
Lesson 11	4/26/15	FAITH / Sharpened	12:1-11	God uses struggles and discipline to sharpen me.
Lesson 12	5/3/15	FAITH / Reminders	12:12-17	Maintaining faith involves avoiding detours.
Lesson 13	5/10/15	FAITH / Unshakable	12:18-29	I’m stable when I submit to God and trust Him.
Lesson 14	5/17/15	LIVED OUT / Relationships	13:1-8	Priorities with people, gifts.
Lesson 15	5/24/15	LIVED OUT / Equipped	13:9-25	Praise guards our soul and feeds discernment.

POSITION / Anchor

Equipped for Eternity, Lesson 1

Hebrews 7:1-13

Sunday, February 8, 2015

Warm-up

Stability suggests non-moveable, as in anchored to something permanent. Do stable relationships follow this rule?

► How far back can you trace your genealogy? Are you proud of your heritage?

Direct Link (vs. 1-2)

Prior to Christ the link looked like this:

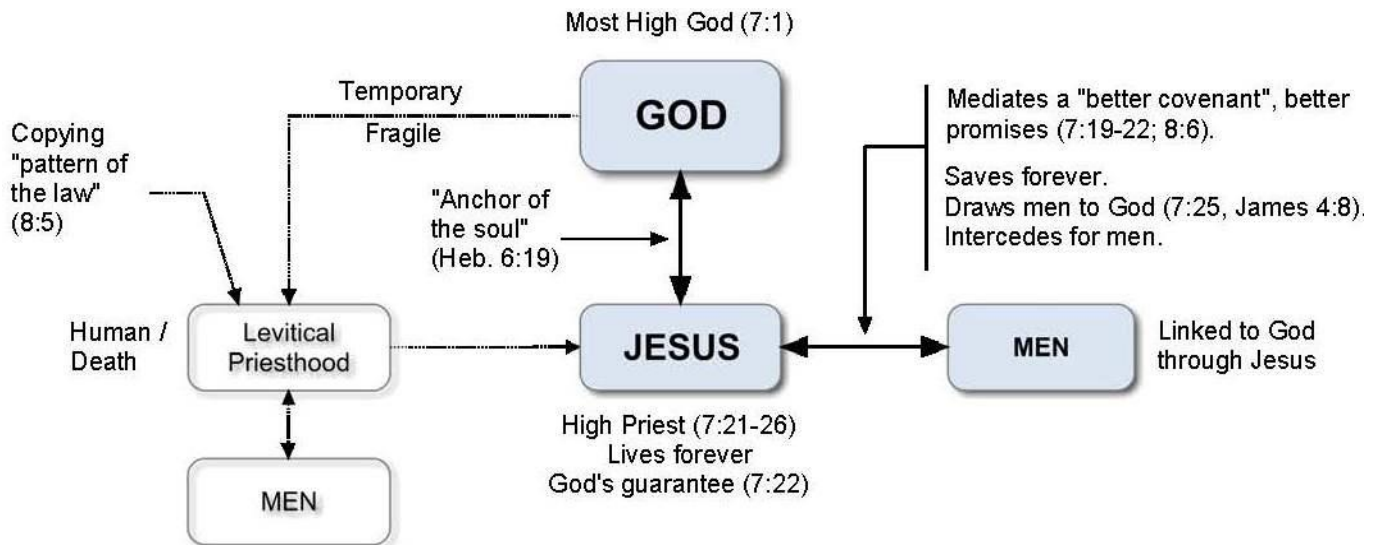
	<i>Priest of Most High God</i>	Spiritual Roots		
GOD	Melchizedek	King of Righteousness	Without father or mother (Heb. 7:3)	Without genealogy (7:3)
	Abraham tithed; Melchizedek blessed	Represented God to Abraham		

Matthew chapter 1 gives the lineage of Christ. God reached down to man through this *human chain*. He held the weak, seemingly broken links together and used man. *Is He using you today?*

- Melchizedek “met Abraham” (7:1). God meets us where we are (James 4:8).
- Melchizedek blessed Abraham (7:6). God blesses us (Eph. 1:3) – freely.
- Abraham gave Melchizedek 10%. What am I giving to God *gladly?*

► *Our strength and ability to live for Christ comes directly from God via His Spirit (Zech. 4:6). When we are ROOTED in Christ we have a DIRECT LINK to God and His power (and His peace). (See Acts 1:8)*

What is our link to God today?



Linked to God Through Jesus

Sky's the Limit (vs. 3-4)

"Without father, without mother, without genealogy..."

Many men and women do not have a happy family background. If you're in this category, take heart! God can work powerfully in the life of those who had poor or absent parenting! *"For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."* (Rom. 8:14)

► *There is no limit to what God can do in and through a man or woman who trusts Him!*

Gift Giving (vs. 5-8)

"...commandment in the law to collect a tenth from the people..." (7:5)

Contagious Blessings

Verses 6-7 say, *"But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises. But without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater."*

Do you see what's happening here? The one who gives, unquestionably, receives the greater blessing! That's why giving to God (and those in need) is contagious.

► *Contagious blessings flow from contagious giving. God is your source. Try it for yourself!*

Advance Planning (vs. 9-13)

"...he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him." (7:10)

Spiritual Investment

God thinks ahead! Verse 12 says, *"For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also."* My investment in living for Christ and teaching others about Him pays spiritual dividends forever!

Plan ahead! Introduce your children (and grandchildren) to God. And your friends. We may not know who'll be impacted ("another tribe" in v. 13) by a spiritual servant. Use God's word as you share, because it will do its work in the hearts of those who hear. *"So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it."* (Isa. 55:11)

► *Living today with the goal of impacting others for Christ tomorrow is a great strategy! What can you do this week to help others draw closer to God? What seeds can you plant by the way you live?*

Group Discussion

1. Name a person from another generation who influenced you for Christ. How did they do this?
2. Talk about [Eph. 3:20](#) ("...Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think...") in light of the "Sky's the Limit" thoughts in verses 3 – 4.
3. Start of list of those in your life who you'd like to see come to Christ. Define the first step of your strategy.

NEXT TIME: Lesson 2: POSITION / Relationship – Hebrews 7:14-28