

**Monday****Hebrews 2:13**  
**Isaiah 8**

Hebrews 2:13 makes direct reference to Old Testament scripture (part of which could be from Psalm 18 and the rest from Isaiah 8). This text highlights Jesus' trust in God the Father for the plan of renewal and reconciliation that is available to all who come to faith in Christ. Jesus' trust in this plan and Jesus' ability to graft believers into the family of God both confirms our identify in Christ and establishes Jesus as being one with God the father. This grants us the confidence that our faith and trust in Jesus is not faith and trust in simply a man, but in the one true God. How can you take this to heart? One way is to consider the fact that, throughout scripture, we are referred to as God's children. As children to human parents on earth, Christians carry an inaccurate understanding of God's fatherhood when we try and understand His fatherhood in light of our own experiences. Instead, consider the magnitude of God's plan, the grace He displays through Jesus, and the power He grants us through the Holy Spirit. Ask yourself this: what in your life do you feel lonely or alone about? What decisions or thoughts weigh you down? Pray and seek God with the knowledge that you are His child.

**Tuesday****Hebrews 2:14-18**  
**Leviticus 16**

It is important to recognize that the work of the Messiah had to be extremely unique. The one individual who was able to be born in the flesh of a human, live a perfect life, suffer the temptations of mankind, die unjustly, have the power to raise himself back up, and the authority to then set mankind back on course to filling the world with the Glory of God. This portion of Hebrews continues to emphasize that Jesus is that unique being. Verse 18, in particular, captures a glorious truth of Jesus' experience on earth in that He had to experience our suffering. This gives Him the full authority to identify with us and provide us with a level of comfort and help *through* our trials. We must remember that Jesus did not avoid suffering, but rather thrust himself into the midst of suffering by simply being willing to live and exist as a servant and love those who were considered unloveable. Consider this: are your prayers more concerned with escaping suffering or are they aimed at experiencing Jesus in the midst of suffering? Remember in John 16:33, Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

**Wednesday****Hebrews 3:1**  
**Colossians 3:1-17**

The author has completed the initial case that Jesus is both the founder of salvation and in complete harmony with those who have placed their faith in Him. Hebrews 3 begins to build a case that Jesus is our ultimate high priest. Think of a priest as the individual who has the authority to set, interpret, and enforce the rules. Begin this reflection in Hebrews 3 by identifying something in your life that you really are tempted to do but you know conflicts with God's word? It doesn't have to be complicated, but it can be as simple as "I really wanted to give that person who cut me off a piece of my mind." How do you deal with the gap in wanting to live by your own rules and what God has established as truth for how we should live?

**Thursday****Hebrews 3:2-6**  
**Genesis 1**

Moses was an incredible historical figure, but he was especially important as a priestly figure to the Hebrew people (to whom this letter is written). Moses is credited with authoring the Torah (the first five books of the Old Testament). While honoring Moses as being faithful, the author of Hebrews quickly asserts that Jesus is worthy of more glory than Moses! Put simply, Moses is regarded as a servant in God's house, while Jesus is regarded as the one in charge of God's house. You are a part of God's house, and like Moses, you are a servant in His house. In what ways do you serve God's kingdom and what do you believe compels/motivates you to do so?

**Friday****Hebrews 3:7-11**  
**Acts 7**

As yesterday's passage closed with the encouragement for us to hold fast and boast in our hope in the Lord, today's passage encourages us to not distance or turn away from the voice of God. While God's Spirit calls us to rest in Him (both now and forever), gravitating away from God will result in us finding ourselves testing God and never really being satisfied with His answers. This results in living a restless life where we never really experience His peace. In Philippians 2:14-18, Paul says that he has learned the secret to contentment. Identify and pray over some areas in your life where you are not finding consistent peace.

**Saturday****Psalm 95**

Psalm 95:8-11 is very much the purposeful derivative of yesterday's reading. Interestingly, it can be observed that both authors are implying that while we ignore God and are miserable in our souls, we have a much better opportunity to worship God and be in awe of who He is and what He has done. Today's question will be two-fold: 1. What does it look like for you to worship and adore God? 2. How do you maintain a heart of worship throughout your day?

**Sunday****Hebrews 3:12-15**  
**1 Peter 3:8-22**

The Hebrews who converted to Christianity were certainly persecuted and tempted in what is ultimately the same underlying temptation that we struggle with today: the desire to gratify ourselves, be the ruler over our lives, and be recognized and exalted for our own works. The author here suggests that we battle that temptation through encouraging one another, being confident in the truth of Christ, and being obedient to open our hearts to the voice of God. To think that we as humans have the capacity to even harden our hearts to the voice of God is nearly unfathomable, but this is the beauty of grace: "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." He saved us and brought to life our dead hearts. Consider spending some time in prayer today thanking God for His plan of salvation for all mankind. Spend some time dwelling on how immense that plan is, and consider this question: What is my role in participating in God's plan—for His glory to be spread across the entire earth?