

**Monday****Hebrews 6:1-3**
Philippians 3

The author here is making the statement that God's fundamental plan of salvation, eternal life through Christ, and our obedience to the voice of God, has been sufficiently discussed. Therefore, rather than revisiting those topics, the author will continue to establish the greatness and worthiness of Christ over all that we hold in value. As you read through Philippians 3, be reminded of the greatness of the Gospel. If what the author is saying is confusing for you, please be encouraged to seek out a Connect Group leader or church staff member to help you walk through these topics!

Tuesday**Hebrews 6:4-8**
Psalms 34
Matthew 7:7-12
Genesis 3:13-19

This text has served for ages as a means for people to express particular beliefs about salvation. Some read this text to say that people who walk away from Jesus can never come back, with the implication being that you can abandon/neglect your salvation. Others read this text as a sarcastic expression from the author with the implication that leaving true faith is an impossibility in the first place. Either way, it's important to take this writing in account with all of Scripture. We know that Scripture says that: 1) salvation is complete and secure, 2) we are to abide in Jesus and to seek to know Him greater, 3) having a relationship with Jesus (and not more knowledge about Him) is the result of salvation. Therefore, rather than using this text to wonder if you or someone you know ever "lost salvation" during a time of rebellion against God, allow this text to remind you that salvation and judgment belongs to God alone. Your lifelong journey, then, is to draw closer to Him, to be obedient to His voice, to live in His freedom, and to be free of condemnation.

Wednesday**Hebrews 6:9-12**
Jeremiah 31:16
Matthew 25:31-46
2 Timothy 4:1-8

The last verse of today's reading in Hebrews emphasizes that our commitment to our faith and willingness to endure grants us the confidence that we will experience God's promises both now and forever. Take a moment to explore what this even means. So often the ideas of having/expressing "faith" is Christianese that we brush by. Ask yourself this question: "In what ways has God increased my faith recently?" The author also invites us to consider how we care for one another. Identify a time when even subconsciously you cared for someone so you could get some form of satisfaction in return. Identify a time when you cared for someone while holding an expectation that they change. Lastly, identify a time when you cared for someone without a need for satisfaction or expectations, but truly out of the abundance of love that Christ has shown to you.

**Thursday****Hebrews 6:13-20**
Genesis 22

Remember, all of Hebrews is intended to shine the greatness of Jesus above every other angelic or human character, event, or artifact in the Jewish religious history. While most of chapter 6 did not seem to be focused on this, the author was ensuring that the reader firmly grasps the fundamentals of following Jesus before defending *how* Jesus holds the right to be our High Priest. Beginning today and for the next three days, we will echo the truths established by the author. **Truth 1:** It is impossible for God to lie, therefore His promise to multiply the dependents of Abraham to carry the image of God across the world must be fulfilled. **Truth 2:** This hope of God to bless and multiply us allows us to enter into relationship with God even though we are faulted. **Truth 3:** We can enter into relationship with God even with our faults because of the work of Christ, who paved the way as our High Priest.

Friday**Hebrews 7:1-10**
Genesis 14

Truth 4: Melchizedek was a great priest (<https://www.gotquestions.org/Melchizedek.html>), who was considered greater than any of the priests from the tribe of Levi and even greater than Abraham himself by virtue of the fact that Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek.

Saturday**Hebrews 7:11-14**
Romans 7-8

Truth 5: If Abraham paid tithes to this priest Melchizedek, this means that not all high priests that are appointed by God come from the lineage of Levi or Abraham (Melchizedek was not of that tribe).

Truth 6: Now, if a high priest appointed by God can come from a different tribe than that of Levi or Abraham, this means that the Jewish law must allow for another high priest to be a descendent outside of the tribe of Levi. The only requirement, therefore, is that the high priest must be appointed by God.

Sunday**Hebrews 7:15-19**
Romans 7-8

Truth 7: The establishment of Jesus as our High Priest is not invalidated by the fact that He is not from the line of Levi. Instead, like Melchizedek, Jesus is from a different lineage and has established a reality through which we can have a better hope and draw near to God ourselves because of Christ living in us. Consider the beauty in this: by referring a non-levite high priest to whom even Abraham honored as high priest, the author rebuts any argument that claims Jesus's lineage makes Him unworthy to be our High Priest. The author argues that if Melchizedek was considered a high priest to even Abraham, then Jesus, through His birth, His appointment by God in baptism, His ministry, His death, and then His resurrection has every right to be our High Priest!