

“The Summit: A Hebrews Retrospective”

Session 13 – Hebrews



Leaders Notes: Congratulations on reaching the final session! The goal of this final session is to celebrate the "Better" life we have found in Jesus. Rather than a verse-by-verse study, we are synthesizing the core themes of the last 12 weeks: Jesus' supremacy, our new access to God, and our endurance in the race.

Timing Tips and Notes for Skipping:

- **The Section 3 Pivot:** If Section 2 generates deep personal sharing, skip the silent reflection in Section 3. Instead, ask participants to do that reflection as "homework" to seal the study.
- **The "Shaking" Shortcut:** If running behind in Section 4, move quickly through the "Unshakable Kingdom" question. Focus primarily on the "Equipped Life" question, as it serves as a stronger "launch" note for the group to end on.
- **The "Anchor" Transition:** If Section 1 runs over 15 minutes, use the "Say It" transition at to immediately pivot to the "Rhythms" in Section 2 to reclaim time.

INTRO – 5 min

Say It: (Lead your group by reading this section aloud to them.)

We have reached the end of our journey through Hebrews. We've seen that Jesus is better than angels, prophets, priests, and the old law. Today isn't about learning new information; it's about celebrating the transformation. We are standing on the summit looking back at how far we've come.

SECTION 1 – Supremacy of the Son (15 min)

Read it: (Ask someone to read this passage aloud.)

- Hebrews 1:3
- Hebrews 2:1

Discuss It: The “Discuss It” sections of this guide should be where you spend most of your time. The goal is 100% participation in discussion. We want everyone to feel like they are a part of the group.

1. The Weight of the Word: Hebrews 1:3 describes Jesus as the "radiance of the glory of God," yet 2:1 warns us to "pay much closer attention... lest we drift away." **What is one truth about Jesus that acts like an anchor for you when life tries to pull you into a "drift"?**

Drifting doesn't happen because we choose to swim away; it happens when we stop paying attention to the anchor. By seeing Jesus as the supreme radiance of God, we realize that moving away from Him isn't just a mistake—it's moving away from life itself. **You don't drift into Jesus; you only drift away. Anchoring requires attention.**

Read it: (Ask someone to read this passage aloud.)

- Hebrews 8:6

2. The Better Promise: Verse 8:6 says Jesus mediates a "better covenant enacted on better promises." **Why does it change your daily stress levels to know that your welcome at God's table is based on His unchanging faithfulness rather than your ability to keep every rhythm perfectly?**

The Old Covenant was like a contract that could be canceled when we failed. The New Covenant is a permanent promise held together by Jesus' finished work. This shifts us from the anxiety of trying to belong to the peace of knowing we are home. We can flourish because the Host of the party is the one who secures our invitation. **We rest in His performance, not our own.**

Say It: (Lead your group by reading this section aloud to them.)

Because we have an Anchor who never moves, we can now establish daily rhythms that keep us tethered to Him.

SECTION 2 – Kingdom Rhythms & Practices (18 min)

Read It: (Ask someone to read aloud.)

- Hebrews 10:23-24
- Hebrews 12:1

Discuss It: (Spend most of your time in discussion.)

- 1. The Great Cloud:** We've spent time with the "Heroes of Faith" in Chapter 11. **Who is someone in your own life (past or present) who has been a "witness" to you, helping you stay in the race when you wanted to quit?**

Faith is a team sport. The "cloud of witnesses" reminds us that we aren't the first to run this race. Recognizing the legacy of faith in our own lives helps us realize we aren't alone. **The Cloud isn't just watching us; it's cheering for us.**

- 2. The Unswerving Hope:** Verse 10:23 tells us to "hold unswervingly... for he who promised is faithful." **What is one new rhythm or practice in your walk with God that has started to feel more natural to you and how do you intend to hold onto it?**

As we shift our focus to Jesus being "Better," our daily habits naturally start to align with His Kingdom. Don't forget that "natural" doesn't mean "easy" though. This could be anything from a more consistent prayer life, a new sense of contentment with what you have, or a greater boldness in sharing your faith. These aren't chores; they are the overflow of a heart set on Jesus for our benefit and flourishing. Our love for Jesus motivates our efforts. **Grace is the fuel, and rhythms are the road.**

SECTION 3 – The “Better” List (5 min – Optional)

Reflect on It: (Optional Activity)

Say It: (Lead your group by reading this aloud to them.)

Take a few minutes to look back at your journey. On a piece of paper, write down three specific things in your life that Jesus is “better” than—maybe an old fear, a false security you used to lean on, or a shifting cultural value. Ask God to show you what step you can take to anchor yourself in Christ.

Give them a few minutes to reflect.

SECTION 4 – The Zion Celebration (15 min)

Read It: (Ask someone to read this passage aloud.)

- Hebrews 12:22-24, 27-28
- Hebrews 13:20-21

Say It: (Lead your group by reading this aloud to them.)

We’ve learned that we don’t live at the mountain of fear anymore. We live at Mount Zion . . . the place of joyful assembly. As we close this series, we want to look at what it means to actually live as citizens of this Unshakable Kingdom every day.

Discuss It: (Spend most of your time in discussion.)

- 1. The Unshakable Kingdom:** In verse 12:27, the author says that God shakes things so that "what cannot be shaken may remain." That means “shaking” isn’t always bad. **Looking back at the last 13 sessions, can you identify anything that God has "shaken" away and what has remained because it was anchored in Jesus?**

God shakes the *temporary* so the *eternal* can be revealed. Life constantly "shakes" our finances, our health, and our emotions. Hebrews teaches us that while the world is temporary, the Kingdom we receive is unshakable. When we stop trying to find stability in our circumstances and start finding it in Jesus’ finished work, our perspective shifts from anxiety to gratitude. **The world shakes, but the Kingdom remains.**

- 2. The Equipped Life:** In the final blessing (vs. 13:20–21), the author asks God to "equip you with everything good for doing his will." **Looking back at the "Better" things we've studied, what is one area where you feel more "equipped" or confident in your faith?**

Being "equipped" doesn't mean we have all the answers; it means we have the right Anchor. Whether it's a better understanding of Jesus as our High Priest or a new perspective on trials, God is working to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways to us as we study the Bible.

DO IT: The Benediction Exchange (5 min)

Say It: (Lead your group by reading this aloud to them.)

We're going to close tonight a little differently. I want you to listen as I simply read Hebrews 13:20-21 over you.

Hebrews 13:20-21

²⁰Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

This isn't just a nice way to end a letter; this is a royal send-off. After we pray and as you leave today, remember that the God of Peace is the one working in you. You aren't running this race alone.

PRAY IT: 2min

Prayer: (Lead your group by praying this prayer this aloud with them.)

Lord Jesus, we thank You for being the radiance of God's glory and the Anchor of our souls. We praise You as our Great High Priest who is not distant but sympathizes with our weaknesses and is not ashamed to call us Your own.

Thank You that the veil is torn and we have access to You. Because of Your better sacrifice, we no longer tremble at the mountain of fear but join the joyful assembly of Mount Zion. We choose to stay anchored in You, the same yesterday, today, and forever, so that we do not drift away.

Surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, help us to run with endurance the race set before us. May the God of peace now equip us with everything good for doing His will, working in us what is pleasing in His sight. We finish this Bible study recognizing that we are citizens of an unshakable Kingdom, offering You a continual sacrifice of praise. Jesus You are BETTER. Amen.

TOTAL TIME: 65min

