

LG | LeaderGuide

[Primary Text: Hebrews 2:1-3, 9-18]

PRAY

Pause. Acknowledge that you are about to open God's word.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate His word.

WARM-UP (10 mins)

Prepare our minds to receive God's word.

- LG Foundations (on back page): What did you learn from our last foundations training (topic: "Follow-Up")?
- When reflecting on the message this past Sunday, what most resonated with you?

ILLUMINATE

Open your Bibles to the primary text. If you do not have a Bible, your leader can provide one.

- Let's read together Hebrews chapter 2 to remind us of the content.

- Verse 1 says, "we must pay closer attention to what we have heard lest we drift away from it." What is "it" in this verse?

The message of Jesus Christ, the better Word. Jesus Christ is superior to any prior revelation. Jesus is speaking to us now in these last days through His word and we must pay attention because eternity hangs in the balance.

- Consider the ocean. How does drifting happen? Can drifting cause you to lose your life? How do we fight against spiritual drift and currents of culture? [Have you ever felt a spiritual "drift"?] Drifting can happen slowly, go unnoticed, and occur right before our eyes. One moment you are right in front of your beach chair and the next moment the current has sent you 100 yards away. Drifting can also lead to death if not caught quickly. We must be keenly aware that we are all capable of drifting away from the truth of God. Without having spiritual markers like an ocean buoy, we have no way of knowing how far we have drifted. The Bible and people holding us accountable are the "buoys" that we need for proper perspective and crucial warnings.

- The Mosaic law or old covenant came with consequences if not obeyed. Verse 3 says, "how shall we ESCAPE if we neglect such a great salvation?" What do you think the author is saying to us here? This new covenant in Jesus is the final and better covenant, so much greater than the old. If the consequences for neglecting the old covenant were severe, what would God's wrath be if we neglected this even greater covenant in Jesus. The author is trying to give us some perspective to both how much better Jesus is, but also how much more certain the penalty will be should we choose to neglect it.

- Why did Jesus have to become human and why did Jesus have to die? Verses 14-18 help us with this.

Jesus had to become fully human (except for sin) so that he could represent believers by becoming both our merciful high priest and also a sacrifice. Just like the old Testament priests brought sacrifices for the forgiveness of sins, Jesus had to become the ultimate sacrifice to satisfy God's wrath and to provide forgiveness of sin for all mankind. All this gives credence to John's statement after seeing Jesus. He said this, "behold, the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world."

- Verse 14 says that Jesus destroyed the power of death through his own death. Have you ever considered this idea? How exactly did Jesus accomplish this?

Jesus disarmed Satan's very stronghold on humankind; slavery to the fear of death. He tasted death for us through becoming flesh and blood and dying on a cross. After making purification for sins on the cross, he then conquered death by rising from the grave, giving us the ability to sing, "O death where is your sting."

- What about chapter 2 brings you joy, peace, comfort?

Jesus is in control and in authority. Jesus has ultimate power of Satan. Our salvation is great!

- As a Christian, you must always be prepared to share the gospel. Who is willing to share the gospel with the group tonight?

For help, go to: vimeo.com/97258323 (3-Circles, NAMB)

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. What does tonight's conversation lead you to pray for?