



PART II

Copyright ©2018 Grace Bible Church, College Station, TX
Created and edited by the pastors and staff of Grace Bible Church.

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,
© Copyright 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995
by The Lockman Foundation, used by permission.

This document may be reproduced and distributed freely,
but you may not charge a fee greater than your manufacturing costs.
No section of this document may be modified without the written consent
of Grace Bible Church, College Station, TX.

CONTENTS

WELCOME	2
Sample Group Guide	3
REVIEW & SURVEY	
Survey of Hebrews 7-13	6
LESSON 1	
Hebrews 7:1-28	9
LESSON 2	
Hebrews 8:1-13	15
LESSON 3	
Hebrews 9:1-10	21
LESSON 4	
Hebrews 9:11-10:18	27
LESSON 5	
Hebrews 10:19-39	33
LESSON 6	
Hebrews 11	39
LESSON 7	
Hebrews 12	45
LESSON 8	
Hebrews 13	51
LESSON SYNTHESIS	57
APPENDICES	
Bible Study Tools Overview	61
Additional Study Resources	66
Old Testament Tabernacle & Temple	67
Engage Tool Box	69

WELCOME

Followers of Jesus have always faced **pressure to trust in lesser things** for security and purpose. The book of Hebrews presents **overwhelming evidence for the greatness of Jesus**. He is better than all alternatives and He alone is worthy of all our worship.

“So great a salvation” fuels our desire to **share the way of Jesus** with people who may be far from God but who are all around us where we live, work and play.

This disciple-making study of Hebrews will equip you to:

- ▶ **Connect** in authentic community as your group shares the joys and struggles of life and praying together for big things
- ▶ **Grow** in biblical truth by searching the scripture and actively applying the word together
- ▶ Joyfully **engage** in helping others find and follow Jesus by learning and practicing simple discipleship tools

The 8 lessons in this packet are designed to walk us through this challenging book of the Bible. In the Survey, we will look at the overall message of the book of Hebrews. The next lessons will focus on studying key passages in detail. Then, in the Synthesis we will summarize what we have learned for future reference.

In studying each passage in detail, we will be learning and using a number of basic Bible study methods. These methods fit under three fundamental skills that are meant to be practiced in order each week.



OBSERVE

What do I see?



INTERPRET

What does it mean?



APPLY

How does it work?

These skills are summarized in the “Bible Study Tools Overview” that you can flip back through during your study. You can find it along with other advanced Bible study skills in the Appendix for those who want to go deeper in their study.

SAMPLE GROUP GUIDE

VISION

In this packet, a Group Guide will be included each week to help facilitate your group's discussion as you connect, grow, and engage.

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

The goal of this time is to ensure that your group stays relationally connected in a spiritually deep way and to "look back" over the previous week to reflect on what God has done. You will celebrate together, evaluate how everyone did while apart, and encourage each other that God can multiply disciples through your lives.

PRAY BIG

Each week, we would like to consistently celebrate together the good we have seen in our lives, and we also like to share some things that have been stressful or challenging. Our hope is that this will lead our group to praise God together for the good while also helping us serve and support one another in areas of difficulty. As each person shares, we have provided space to record these prayer requests at the top of the following week's Title Page.

- What has been encouraging you in your life lately?
- What has been difficult for you recently?
- Spend some time praising God for what has encouraged you and pray for each other in areas that have been difficult.

LIVE THE WORD

As we walk through Hebrews, we want to apply what we are learning through the power of the Holy Spirit. We will call these "I Will" and "We Will" statements, and they will be recorded on the next lesson's Title Page.

REMEMBERING OUR "WHY"

It is easy to lose track of why we are meeting, so we will spend some time considering the purpose of our group.

- In groups you have been involved with in the past, have they focused more on connect, grow, or engage?
- How will our group benefit from focusing on all three?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

The goal of this time is to “look up” to God, ready to see how His Word will help us know Jesus more and become better equipped to share Him with others around us. This will be done primarily by memorizing the Word as a group and by studying new passages of the Bible.

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Over the course of the study, we will memorize a section of scripture together and share our progress each week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

Each week we hope to be able to share our key insights and hear from each other on how they are impacting our lives. While we won't be able to be exhaustive in our discussion of the passage, each week's group guide will suggest a few questions to focus on.

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

The goal of this time is to “look ahead” and prepare as a group to implement the things God will be teaching you — evangelism, discipleship, training others, starting new groups, etc.

LIVE THE WORD

As we look back at the insights we just discussed, we will create main individual and group application statements and record them at the top of the following week's Title Page. For example, we suggest that you record the following statements on the blanks provided on pg. 5.

I Will: *Read the entire book of Hebrews once (or twice if you have time)*

We Will: *Set up a social time outside of our group to get together*

Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

TOOL BOX

In the coming week, we will set aside a time during each group to demonstrate and practice several tools that our group can use to impact the people who live, work, and play around us.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

We believe evangelism is best done as a team sport. Therefore, we will spend time praying for the people in our lives that we hope to find Jesus. For the rest of our time together, let's pray for the people we just wrote on Big Blue.

REVIEW & SURVEY

PRAY BIG

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you know of, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to illuminate your study.

REVIEW OF HEBREWS 1-6

After spending at least 8 weeks studying and applying Hebrews 1-6 last semester, reviewing the book of Hebrews provides you a helpful reminder concerning the author's original purpose for writing and the historical setting of the book. Specifically, the author of Hebrews exhorted the original readers to continue in their faith rather than returning back to Judaism. Despite intense persecution, the author continued to point to the superiority of Jesus throughout Hebrews 1-6. In fact, here's a helpful outline of Hebrews 1-6 to refresh your memory ...

- Hebrews 1:1-2:18 – Jesus' Superiority as a Revelatory Agent over OT Prophets and Angels
- Hebrews 3:1-4:13 – Jesus' Superiority as an Apostle over Moses
- Hebrews 4:14-6:20 – Jesus' Superiority as a Priest over the OT Levitical Priesthood

BACKGROUND

Once you have completed the introductory questions, read this background article on the book of Hebrews (compiled from *The Bible Knowledge Commentary, From Gospels to Glory: Exploring the New Testament, and Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary.*)

AUTHORSHIP

Other than 1 John, the Epistle to the Hebrews is the only letter in the New Testament with no greeting or identification of its author. Many names have been conjectured for the authorship including Paul, Barnabas, Clement of Rome, Luke, Silvanus, Philip the Evangelist, Priscilla and Apollos. While the identity of the author remains a mystery, his/her literary skill, knowledge of the Septuagint (Greek translation of Old Testament) and rich vocabulary are clearly evident in the writing. Some think the most likely candidates are Apollos (an eloquent Alexandrian Jew who knew the scriptures well – Acts 18:24) or Barnabas (a Levite – Acts 4:36).

ORIGINAL AUDIENCE

Internal evidence strongly indicates that the recipients of the letter were a specific, local assembly of Jewish believers (12:4, 13:19, 23-24) who had come out of Judaism to embrace Christ as the Messiah promised in the Old Testament. The author writes from a Jewish point of view to people who were once in Judaism and are now being tempted to return to it. The book has 93 direct references to the Old Testament.

PURPOSE

There are several interrelated reasons for the writing of Hebrews:

1. Supremacy of Christ – The writer sets out to demonstrate the superiority of Christ over all that Old Testament Judaism offered. This essential truth forms both the primary purpose and the central theme of Hebrews.
2. Maturity – The major goal of the author is to see that the readers progress to maturity in Christ (5:11-14). They had made a good start but were in danger of drifting and going back to Judaism rather than progressing on to maturity in Christ.

The Epistle to the Hebrews exalts the person and work of Christ and makes valuable contributions to the doctrines of His Incarnation, His substitutionary death, His priesthood and the relationship between the New Covenant and the Old.

GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- Where have you seen the Lord's grace and kindness this week?
- Where have you felt stressed and anxious over this past week?
- Spend some time praising God for where you have seen his grace and pray for each other in areas that have been stressful.

REMEMBERING OUR "WHY"

- As discussed last week, what are the three objectives of our group and why are they each important?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share Hebrews 1:1.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- What was the author's main purpose in writing to this group of believers?
- If your group has time, ask individuals or groups of 2-3 to individually read one of the chapters 7-13 to themselves and then share the themes and big ideas of each chapter with the whole group.

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- As a group, form an individual and group application statement, and record it on next week's Title Page.
- Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

TOOL BOX

- Introduce Big Blue (see p. 69).

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to BIG BLUE and pray for them together as a group.

LESSON 1 HEBREWS 7:1-28

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

This semester, we are going to focus on memorizing one longer section of Scripture. Specifically, we will memorize Hebrews 10:19-25 adding on one verse each week. This week, we want to encourage you to memorize Hebrews 10:19.

Hebrews 10:19: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

THEMATIC REFLECTION:

After reading all of Chapter 7, what Old Testament office is in focus? And what do you learn about this Old Testament position?

HEBREWS 7:11-28

¹¹Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron? ¹²For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also. ¹³For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. ¹⁴For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests. ¹⁵And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, ¹⁶who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷For it is attested of Him, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” ¹⁸For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness ¹⁹(for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. ²⁰And inasmuch as it was not without an oath ²¹(for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him, “The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind, ‘You are a priest forever’”); ²²so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant. ²³The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing, ²⁴but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. ²⁵Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through

Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. ²⁶For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;²⁷ who does not need daily, like those high priests' to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. ²⁸For the Law appoints men as high priests who are weak, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law' appoints a Son, made perfect forever.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

1. List key characteristics about each of the following priesthoods.

MELCHIZEDEK	AARONIC/LEVITICAL	JESUS

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

v 11-14

v 15-19

v 20-24

v 25-28

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

INTERPRETATION METHOD #4: LOOK UP BACKGROUND INFORMATION

MELCHIZEDEK *Heb. malkîşedeq, 'Sedeq is (my) king' or, as in Heb. 7:2, 'king of righteousness'*

He was the king of Salem (probably Jerusalem) and priest of 'God Most High' 'ēl 'elyôn) who greeted Abram on his return from the rout of CHEDORLAOMER and his allies, presented him with bread and wine, blessed him in the name of God Most High and received from him a tenth part of the booty which had been taken from the enemy (cf. Genesis 14:18). Abram thereupon declined the king of Sodom's offer to let him keep all the booty apart from the recovered prisoners, swearing by God Most High that he would allow no man to have the honour of making him rich ... In Ps. 110:4 a Davidic king is acclaimed by divine oath as 'a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek'. The background of this acclamation is provided by David's conquest of Jerusalem c. 1000 BC, by virtue of which David and his house became heirs to Melchizedek's dynasty of priest-kings. The king so acclaimed was identified by Jesus and his contemporaries as the Davidic Messiah (Mk. 12:35ff.). If Jesus is the Davidic Messiah, he must be the 'priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek'. This inevitable conclusion is drawn by the writer to the Hebrews, who develops his theme of our Lord's heavenly priesthood on the basis of Ps. 110:4, expounded in the light of Genesis 14:18, where Melchizedek appears and disappears suddenly, with nothing said about his birth or death, ancestry or descent, in a manner which declares his superiority to Abram and, by implication, to the Aaronic priesthood descended from Abram. The superiority of Christ and his new order to the levitical order of OT times is thus established (Heb. 5:6–11; 6:20–7:28).

Compiled from the New Bible Dictionary

1. According to verses 1-10, what differentiated the priesthood of Melchizedek from the priesthood of Levi (cf. Genesis 14:17-24)? Furthermore, why are these differences significant to the author's argument in this chapter?
2. According to verses 11-28, what was lacking in the Old Testament priesthood?
3. How does the superiority of Jesus' priesthood (and its similarity to Melchizedek's priesthood) resolve the insufficiencies in the Old Testament priesthood?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- What are you celebrating from this past week?
- What has disappointed you during this last week?
- Spend some time praying for the things you are celebrating and for the areas that have been disappointing.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?
- How did we do with accomplishing our group application statement?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS PASSAGE

- Thematic Preview – After reading all of Chapter 7, what Old Testament office is in focus? And what do you learn about this Old Testament office?
- Observe – Discuss everyone’s key characteristics for the 3 different priesthoods.
- Interpret – Focus on Questions 1, 2, and 3.

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply–focus on Question 1
- As a group, form an individual and group application statement, using answers to Apply Question 2 and record it on the following week’s Title Page.
- Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for them together as a group.

LESSON 2 HEBREWS 8:1-13

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-20: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

THEMATIC REFLECTION:

How does the author of Hebrews demonstrate the superiority of Jesus' priesthood in this chapter?

HEBREWS 8:1-13

¹Now the main point in what has been said is this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ²a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man. ³For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices; so it is necessary that this high priest also have something to offer. ⁴Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law; ⁵who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things' just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, "See," He says, "That you make all things according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain;" ⁶But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises. ⁷For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second. ⁸For finding fault with them, He says, "Behold, days are coming, says the Lord, When I will effect a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; ⁹Not like the covenant which I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; for they did not continue in My covenant, and I did not care for them,' says the Lord. ¹⁰"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹¹"And they shall not teach everyone his fellow citizen, and everyone his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' For all will know Me, From

the least to the greatest of them. ¹²“For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And I will remember their sins no more.” ¹³When He said, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to disappear.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

1. Circle every reference to a place or location in this chapter.
2. List key characteristics about both the Old and New Covenants in the table below.

OLD COVENANT	NEW COVENANT

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

vv 1-3

vv 4-6

vv 7-9

vv 10-13

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

1. In verses 1-5, why does the author emphasize the place that Jesus currently ministers as a priest? In other words, why is this place significant at all?

2. According to verses 6-13, the author declares that Jesus' priesthood is superior to any other because "He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises." A covenant is simply an agreement between 2 parties based on specific promised terms to fulfill within a certain timeframe. In more common terms, a covenant is simply a contract finalized by a handshake or a signature.

With this in mind, please answer the following questions about the biblical covenants ...

- a. What was the purpose of the old covenant for the nation of Israel (cf. Exodus 19:5-8; Romans 7:12-14; Galatians 3:19, 24, 1 Peter 1:15-16)?

- b. But what was also lacking in the old covenant (cf. Deuteronomy 5:29, Romans 8:1-4)?

- c. How does the new covenant resolve the insufficiencies of the old covenant (cf. Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Ezekiel 36:22-27)?

- d. What is Christ's relationship to the old and new covenants (cf. 8:13; Luke 22:20)?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. How could the promises of the new covenant change the way you struggle for victory over sin? Specifically, what steps could you take this week to rely on the Spirit within you?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- What was the highlight from your week?
- What has discouraged you during this last week?
- Spend some time praying for the things have been highlights and for the areas that have been discouraging.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?
- How did we do with accomplishing our group application statement?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Observe – Focus on the key characteristics of the old covenant and new covenant
- Interpret – Focus on each part of Question 2

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply – Focus on Question 1
- As a group, form an individual and group application statement, and record it on the following week's Title Page.
- Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

TOOL BOX

- Engage- Imagine that your friend trusted Christ for the first time yesterday over lunch as you shared the gospel, then answer the following questions:
 1. What key truths of Christianity would you help your friend learn first?
 2. What key spiritual practices would you introduce to your friend?
- After brainstorming as a group through these key truths and practices, take a look at our prepared list(see handout)Next week, be praying for someone that you could take through our new believer follow up packet.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your story with your friends this week.

LESSON 3 HEBREWS 9:1-10

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-21: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

HEBREWS 9:1-10

¹Now even the first covenant had regulations of divine worship and the earthly sanctuary. ²For there was a tabernacle prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this is called the holy place. ³Behind the second veil there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies, ⁴having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant; ⁵and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot now speak in detail. ⁶Now when these things have been so prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship, ⁷but into the second only the high priest enters once a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance. ⁸The Holy Spirit is signifying this, that the way into the holy place has not yet been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing, ⁹which is a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience, ¹⁰since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

1. Circle key descriptions of the OT tabernacle within this passage.
2. In the space below, draw a sketch of the OT tabernacle from clues within this passage. After completing your drawing, refer to the Appendix on p. 67 to see a completed diagram.

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

v 1-2

v 3-4

v 5-6

v 7-8

v 9-10

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

Break up into groups of 3-4 and discuss:

- Share a way that God blessed you through another person this week.
- What burdens are you carrying that we can pray for?
- Spend some time praying for the blessings you received and the burden(s) you are carrying.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?
- How did we do with accomplishing our group application statement?

REMEMBERING OUR "WHY"

- What would happen if our group didn't commit to connect, grow, or engage? How would the absence of one of these elements affect us? Which one is our group strongest and weakest in?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Observe – Focus on Question 2 as you draw the Old Testament tabernacle.
- Interpret – Focus on each part of Question 2.

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply – Focus on Question 1
- As a group, form an individual and group application statement, and record it on the following week's Title Page.
- Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your faith story with your friends this week.

LESSON 4 HEBREWS 9:11-10:18

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-22: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

THEMATIC REFLECTION:

What main priestly activity does the author emphasize in this passage?

HEBREWS 9:11-10:18 *Read this entire passage in your Bible. Observe the selected verses below.*

¹¹ But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; ¹²and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? ¹⁵For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

²³Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; ²⁵nor was it that He would offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin [n]by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁷And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, ²⁸so Christ also, having

been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him. ¹⁰Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; ¹²but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹⁸Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

CONNECTING WORDS: These important words indicate the logical connection between words, phrases, and clauses. Here are eight types of common connecting words to look for:

1. **Comparison** either points out similarities between two or more related ideas or simply joins like ideas. Comparison words include: and, like, as, just as, also, so also, even so.
2. **Contrast** points out dissimilarities between ideas. Contrast words include: but, rather, yet, however.
3. **Purpose** indicates the intended goal of an idea or action, whether or not it was realized. Purpose words include: that, so that, in order that.
4. **Result** is similar to “purpose,” but indicates the actual consequence, whether or not it was intended. Result words include: that, so that, as a result, with the result that.
5. **Cause** expresses the basis or cause of an action. Cause words include: because, since, and sometimes for.
6. **Explanation** is what follows and further explains the previous idea, giving reasons why it is true, why it occurred, or simply adding additional information. Look for the key word “for.”
7. **Inference** provides a logical consequence, conclusion, or summary to the previous discussion. Inference words include: therefore, for this reason.
8. **Condition** presents a condition that must occur before a certain action or conclusion can take place. The statement may or may not reflect reality (i.e., it could be hypothetical). Key word is “if.”

1. Box each connecting word within this passage.
2. Highlight repeated words.
3. List out key characteristics of both the Old Testament priests’ sacrifices and Jesus’ sacrifice.

OLD TESTAMENT PRIESTS’ SACRIFICES	JESUS’ SACRIFICE

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

v 13-15

v 23-25

v 26-28

v 11-18

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

1. After spending ten verses discussing the tabernacle in 9:1-10, why does the author focus on the priest's sacrifice for so many verses in 9:11-10:18?
2. According to Hebrews 9:15-22, why did God require a sacrifice of blood (cf. Leviticus 17:11)? What does this consistent pattern throughout Old Testament and New Testament reveal about His character?
3. According to 10:1-4, 10-12, what is the fundamental difference between the sacrifices of the Old Testament priests and the sacrifice of Jesus? And why is this difference significant?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What are you asking God for this week?
- Spend some time giving thanks for the ways God has blessed you and pray for each other's needs.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?
- How did we do with accomplishing our group application statement?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Observe – Focus on Question 3.
- Interpret – Focus on Questions 2 and 3.

ENGAGE~LOOKING UP~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply – Focus on Question 1

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your story with your friends this week.

LESSON 5 HEBREWS 10:19-39

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-23: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

HEBREWS 10:19-39

¹⁹Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. ²⁶For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. ²⁸Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge His people.” ³¹It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God. ³²But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, ³³partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. ³⁴For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one. ³⁵Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶For you have need of

endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. ³⁷For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay. ³⁸But My righteous one shall live by faith; And if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. ³⁹But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

1. Circle every description of the author's audience within this passage.
2. How would you describe the tone of this passage?

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

v 19-23

v 24-26

v 27-29

v 30-32

v 33-35

v 36-39

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

1. This passage breaks down into 3 clear sections: 10:19-25, 10:26-31, and 10:32-39. How do these sections relate to each other? Furthermore, why do you think the author structured this chapter in this way?

2. In Hebrews 10:26-31, the author issues the last and most severe warning in the book. As you wrestle with this difficult passage, please answer the following questions ...
 - a. What is the specific sin being warned against here (cf. Hebrews 6:6)?

 - b. What does the author mean in 10:26-27 when he states “there no longer remains a sacrifice of sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment” (cf. Number 15:30-36; 16:1-40)? Specifically, what is the consequence for failing to heed this warning (cf. Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 11:27-32)?

In your estimation, does this consequence refer to eternal damnation specifically? Why or why not?

- c. What kind of person could both “trample under foot the Son of God” and also be “sanctified” by the very blood that they now consider unclean?

3. How does the author’s exhortation in 10:32-39 provide a pathway to avoiding the consequences of the warning passage?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 20 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- How have you witnessed God's goodness to you this week?
- What stressors are you facing this week?
- Spend some time praying for the things you are celebrating and for the areas that have been discouraging.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 45 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Observe – Focus on Question 1.
- Interpret – Focus on Questions 1 and 2.

ENGAGE~LOOKING UP~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply – Focus on Question 1.
- As a group, form individual and group application statements, and record them on the following week's Title Page.
- Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

TOOL BOX

- Discipleship Principle – In Lesson 3, we introduced the Picture of a Maturing Disciple: Discuss handout.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your story with your friends this week.

LESSON 6 HEBREWS 11

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-24: Write it out to get your memorization started.

INTRODUCTION TO DISCOVERY BIBLE GROUPS

We hope you have enjoyed your study of the book of Hebrews so far. This week, we are going to change the method of study quite a bit to demonstrate an adaptation of the Inductive Bible Study tool called Discovery Bible Groups (DBGs). Our hope is that this lesson will prepare you to read the Bible with friends in your life who do not know Jesus.

WHY DBGs?

When many of you think about studying the Bible with others, you likely assume that there is going to be some pre-meeting preparation followed by a two-hour group meeting with other believers who are knowledgeable about the Bible and theology. Unfortunately, this typical experience presents a couple of potential barriers for someone looking to read the Bible with a lost friend.

First, this kind of study is not likely to sound enticing for someone who is not saved! You might get a friend to bite for the first two or three studies, but once other opportunities present themselves, you will surely find them showing up less and less.

Second, if you are being honest, most of us struggle to find the time to complete the weekly homework for the Bible studies we are already committed to, so to add something new to your plate might sound like an impossible task. On top of that, you might not want to bear the responsibility of being the “Bible study leader” as you know it from previous studies you have been a part of.

What we want to teach you this week is another way. DBGs require very little preparation, take less than an hour a week, and are very personally focused on your relationship with your lost friends and *their* community.

So, we would like for you to trust us and prepare to “study” the next passage in Hebrews by learning to use the DBG tool. Yes, that’s right – we do not want you to study the passage before you attend your next group meeting so that you can experience first-hand just how much God can teach you and your friends in a DBG.

Question to Consider: Looking back at a time you have wanted to read the Bible with a lost friend, what are the barriers that prevented you from being successful?

DISTINCTIONS OF A DBG

Before we introduce you to the DBG tool, we first want to establish some core distinctions of the DBG process.

#1 – GOD IS YOUR FRIEND’S PRIMARY TEACHER, NOT YOU

In John 6:44-45, Jesus says, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they shall *all* be taught of God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned *from the Father*, comes to Me.” You can rest assured right now that God is at work teaching your friend what they need to know for salvation! From the very beginning, a DBG is an opportunity to facilitate an encounter between the truth that God wants to speak and your friend’s heart. The goal of this process is to remove as many barriers to that as possible.

Right now, you can let out a deep breath because God is going to do the heavy lifting of teaching for you. To help your friend “discover” the answers to their questions through God’s Word, you will only answer questions that the passage directly addresses. There is no need to worry about having the right answers to every question that might pop up. Just politely respond to a difficult question (or one not addressed in the passage) by saying, “That’s a great question. Let’s write that one down and see if it is answered in a later passage.”

You will find the urge to answer peripheral questions to be quite strong – RESIST, RESIST, RESIST that urge. You might feel like leaving questions unanswered is leaving a stumbling block between your friend and Jesus, but demonstrating the role of spiritual expert can often make people feel as if they could never believe in Jesus because they do not know what you know. It also places your friend’s trust in your knowledge and not in their encounter with the living God through His Word. You want their decision to follow Jesus to be based more around their response to the conviction of the Holy Spirit than on your ability to provide a sufficient answer to every question they might have. These Bible readings will also tee up many other “outside of the group” conversations where you can follow up on other conversations at a later date.

#2 – BECOMING A GROUP IS KEY TO A DBG

From the moment your lost friend agrees to read the Bible with you, you want to encourage them to invite other friends to join you using a statement like: “I am really excited about reading the Bible with you, and I have found that these discussions are most interesting when more people are able to jump in. Is there anyone you would like to invite to read the Bible with us?”

Having others from their community join you is critical to keep your friend from feeling like a future decision to follow Jesus means that they must leave the group of friends they have had for so long. If that friend group has been a part of their journey to Jesus, they are more likely to respect your friend’s decision, and they might even decide to follow Jesus themselves!

With that said, it becomes difficult to catch new group members up to speed after the third or fourth lesson, so you will likely get to the point where it is difficult to have new people join. In this case, encourage your friend to begin to read the Bible in Genesis 1 with interested people using the DBG method, and assure them that you will help them be prepared to lead their own group. Empower your friend to facilitate their own group regardless of whether they have chosen to follow Jesus yet or not!

#3 – EVERYONE CAN FACILITATE THE DBG

This gets us to the last major distinction of a DBG. You will find the DBG method to be intentionally simple enough to empower your lost friends to be able to facilitate the group themselves after experiencing it only a few times. Once you hit the fourth or fifth lesson, we encourage you to take a risk and empower your friend to lead the next group meeting. They will be honored that you would trust them with that, and in most cases, you will find that they take it more seriously once they have their own sense of ownership about the group!

Because we believe that God’s Word is true and sufficient, you can trust that if the group is committed to the text, they will be able to navigate new theological territory with the trust in God’s Word.

Question to Consider: Which of these core distinctions will be most difficult for you in practice? Why?

THE DBG PROCESS

This method is purposefully very simple, reproducible, and obedience-oriented. You can also find a single-page simplified DBG process along with some suggested passages to read in the Appendix on page 71.

We have broken the DBG process up into three helpful sections:

CONNECT

This section of the DBG is designed to deepen your relationship with the other group members and to hold each other accountable to the actions steps that were committed to in the previous week. It also models for your friend what worship (“thankfulness”) and dependence on God (“stress”) look like before they ever believe in Jesus. At first, you are teaching them to express these things to the group, but once they believe in Jesus, they will naturally begin to express them to God as well.

- Ask the group: “What are you thankful for, and what has stressed you out this week? Did you see an answered prayer this week?” Have each person share briefly and set an example by recording their responses.
- After the first meeting, ask: “Did you do what you said you would this past week?” Ask everyone to share.
- After the first meeting, ask: “Did you share with the people you said you would this past week?” Ask everyone to share.

GROW

This section begins by helping the group become familiar with the passage being studied. Because you want to eventually empower other group members to facilitate the group, it is essential that you model a DBG that is centered on the text itself. That begins by teaching the group to be bold in self-correcting anything that does not line up with what the passage actually says.

Once the group is familiar with the passage, you will walk them through the first three discussion questions. The goal is to have as many people share their thoughts as time allows. Again, you should focus on facilitating discussion about the passage rather than “teaching” or adding your own knowledge to the discussion. If the discussion begins to stray from the passage, then you need to be firm in redirecting the conversation back to the text itself.

- Say: “Let’s see what the Bible teaches us today.” Starting with Genesis 1:1-25, read the passage twice out loud – asking different people to read it. (Go through one passage each meeting time.)
- Ask for someone to retell the passage in their own words like they were telling a friend who wasn’t there.
- Ask: “Do you agree with their retelling? Is there something they added or left out that they shouldn’t have?” If the group doesn’t miss a key component of the passage, continue on to the discussion questions. If they miss something, read the passage again. If someone states something that isn’t in the passage, ask, “Where did you find [what they said] in this passage?” Reread the passage, if necessary.
- Ask Discussion Question #1: “What does this passage teach us about God?”
- Ask Discussion Question #2: “What does this passage teach us about people?”
- Ask Discussion Question #3: “What do you like about this passage?”

ENGAGE

This last section is designed to develop a habit of being obedient to the Word of God. It is also quite natural for people to talk with others about things they find interesting, so do not be afraid of setting some tangible action steps as a response to the things that interested them in reading the Bible.

- Ask Discussion Question #4: “If we believe this passage is from God, how must we change? How are you going to obey what God says in this passage this week?” Have everyone share. This should be something very specific that you can say yes or no to doing the next time you have a DBG meeting.
- Ask Discussion Question #5: Whom are you going to share this passage with before we meet again? Have everyone share.
- Ask: Is there any way we can pray for you this week?

After each group meeting, go ahead and let the group know what passage will be read the following week and take a minute to put the next meeting on the calendar. Some people like to set a consistent, weekly time, whereas others prefer to ask a question like, “When would you like to get together to read the Bible again?”

Question to Consider: Do you feel like you could facilitate the Discovery Bible Group process? Is there anyone you would like to invite to read the Bible with you in the coming weeks?

CONCLUSION

Well, that’s it! You are now prepared to read the Bible with lost friends in a way that requires very little preparation, takes less than an hour a week, and is personally focused on your relationship with your them and *their* community. If you do not yet feel confident about doing this yourself, don’t worry. Once you experience this process as a group this week, we believe you will find it to be incredibly simple and natural to facilitate on your own.

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- What are you thankful for, and what has stressed you out this week?
- Did you see an answered prayer this week?
- Spend some time giving thanks for the ways you have seen God's goodness and pray for each other's needs.

LIVE THE WORD

- How did you do at accomplishing your personal application this week?

REMEMBERING OUR "WHY"

- How does a Discovery Bible Group help us "engage" people around us?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Say: "Let's see what the Bible teaches us today." Starting with Hebrews 11, read the passage twice out loud – asking different people to read it. (Go through one passage each meeting time.)
- Ask for someone to retell the passage in their own words like they were telling a friend who wasn't there.
- Ask: "Do you agree with their retelling? Is there something they added or left out that they shouldn't have?" If the group doesn't miss a key component of the passage, continue on to the discussion questions. If they miss something, read the passage again. If someone states something that isn't in the passage, ask, "Where did you find [what they said] in this passage?" Reread the passage, if necessary.
- Ask Discussion Question #1: "What does this passage teach us about God?"
- Ask Discussion Question #2: "What does this passage teach us about people?"
- Ask Discussion Question #3: "What do you like about this passage?"

ENGAGE~LOOKING BACK~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Ask Discussion Question #4: "If we believe this passage is from God, how must we change? How are you going to obey what God says in this passage this week?" Have everyone share. This should be something very specific that you can say yes or no to doing the next time you have a DBG meeting.
- Ask Discussion Question #5: Whom are you going to share this passage with before we meet again? Have everyone share.
- As a group, form an individual and group application statement, and record it on the following week's Title Page.
- Spend some time planning the steps you will take to accomplish your group application statement.

TOOL BOX

- Debrief your Discovery Bible Group experience.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your story with your friends this week.

LESSON 7 HEBREWS 12

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-25: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

THEMATIC REFLECTION:

What is the central theme that weaves through this entire chapter?

HEBREWS 12

¹Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. ⁴You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; ⁵and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are reproved by Him; ⁶For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives.” ⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Furthermore we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. ¹² Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint,

but rather be healed. ¹⁴Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; ¹⁶that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears. ¹⁸For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind, ¹⁹and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which sound was such that those who heard begged that no further word be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not bear the command, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it will be stoned." ²¹And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, "I am full of fear and trembling." ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, ²³to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all; and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel. ²⁵See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven. ²⁶And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven." ²⁷This expression, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

1. Underline each verb in this passage.
2. Box each connecting word in this passage.
3. Highlight each example of figurative imagery in this passage.

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

v 1-5

v 6-10

v 11-15

v 16-20

v 21-25

v 26-29

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

1. How does the analogy of a “race” in 12:1 fit so well with the central theme of this chapter? Furthermore, what is Jesus’ role in our spiritual race?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- What are you celebrating from this past week?
- What has disappointed you during this last week?
- Spend some time praying for the things you are celebrating and for the areas that have been disappointing.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?
- How did we do with accomplishing our group application statement?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS PASSAGE

- Thematic Preview – What is the central theme that weaves through this entire chapter?
- Observe – Focus on Question 3.
- Interpret – Focus on Question 1 and 2.

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply–focus on Question 1 and 2.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for them together as a group.

LESSON 8 HEBREWS 13

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-25: Write it out to get your memorization started.

OBSERVE: WHAT DO I SEE?

THEMATIC REFLECTION:

What fruit of the Spirit links the series of commands throughout this chapter?

HEBREWS 13

¹Let love of the brethren continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body. ⁴Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge. ⁵Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," ⁶so that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?" ⁷Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned outside the camp. ¹²Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate. ¹³So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach. ¹⁴For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come. ¹⁵Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. ¹⁶And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. ¹⁸Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things. ¹⁹And I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you the sooner. ²⁰Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, ²¹equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever Amen. ²²But I urge you, brethren, bear with this word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. ²³Take notice that our brother Timothy has been released, with whom, if he comes soon, I will see you. ²⁴Greet all of your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you. ²⁵ Grace be with you all.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

1. Underline each verb in this page.
2. Circle every reference to people within this passage.

OBSERVATIONS

List at least 1 observation per verse. See [Bible Study Tools Overview](#) for instruction.

v 1-6

v 7-11

v 22-16

vV 17-21

vV 22-25

INTERPRET: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

1. Record and answer 2 of your own interpretive questions from this passage.

a.

b.

2. Referencing the verbs you underlined and people you circled in the Observe section, please complete the table below...

COMMAND	RECIPIENT	RESULT	CONSEQUENCE
<i>(Key Action Taken)</i>	<i>(Person or Group to Receive the Action)</i>	<i>(Intended Blessing Received)</i>	<i>(Possible Negative Outcome if Command not Obeyed)</i>

3. In Hebrews 13:12-14, how does the example of Jesus' suffering "outside the gate" further demonstrate the theme of love within this chapter?
4. What is significant in the closing of the letter (Hebrews 13:20-24)?

APPLY: HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. This chapter provides a series of different demonstrations of love within the community of faith. Which ones are easy for you? Which ones are uniquely challenging? And why?
2. How will you continue to strengthen your spiritual community as this study ends?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 25 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

- What was the highlight from your week?
- What has discouraged you during this last week?
- Spend some time praying for the things you are celebrating and for the areas that have been discouraging.

LIVE THE WORD

- Looking back on last week, how did you do with accomplishing your personal application statement?
- How did we do with accomplishing our group application statement?

REMEMBERING OUR WHY

- Read Matthew 22:37-40 – How do you see Connect, Grow, and Engage within the Great Commandments?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 35 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this week.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Thematic Preview - What fruit of the Spirit links the series of commands throughout this chapter?
- Observe – Focus on the key characteristics of the old covenant and new covenant
- Interpret – Focus on each part of Question 2

ENGAGE~LOOKING AHEAD~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- Apply – Focus on Question 1

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your story with your friends this week.

SYNTHESIS

PRAY BIG

Throughout this week, pray daily for the people in your group ...

LIVE THE WORD

As a reminder, we concluded our last lesson with the following individual and group application statements ...

I will: _____

We will: _____

How will you take steps to follow through on these application statements this week?

MEMORIZE THE WORD

Hebrews 10:19-25: Write it out to get your memorization started.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

1. How does supremacy of Christ as priest compared to the Old Testament priests encourage the original audience and you to persevere in the face of difficulty?

2. What makes a community marked by faith, hope, and love so compelling in the midst of persecution?

Create a list of the theological truths and life lessons you have learned for the first time or have been reminded of from your study of Hebrews. As an example of a theological truth, you might write *“I was taught that I can draw near to God in confidence because of Jesus’ mediation as my High Priest.”* Hebrews 4:15-16. As an example of a life lesson, you might write *“This book reminded me that spiritual growth is a community project pursued not just individually but also corporately.”*

List at least ten theological truths and ten life lessons that you learned from your study of Hebrews. Note the scripture reference too.

THEOLOGICAL TRUTHS I’VE LEARNED

LIFE LESSONS I’VE LEARNED

LIVE THE WORD

PERSONAL APPLICATIONS

List the most significant ways that you personally have applied biblical truth during this study.

GROUP APPLICATIONS

What were some of the challenges and benefits of creating “We will” statements. Which ones stood out to you?

ENGAGE TOOLBOX

Review the disciple-making tools that you have learned and practiced during the study (Big Blue, New Believer Follow Up, Picture of a Maturing Disciple, and Discover Bible Groups).

- Which did you find most challenging?

- Which have you used the most in your daily life?

- How will you continue to practice these in the coming days?

CONNECT~LOOKING BACK~ 20 MINUTES

PRAY BIG

Break up into groups of 3-4 and discuss:

- What are you thankful for, and what has stressed you out this week?
- Did you see an answered prayer this week?
- Spend some time giving thanks for the ways you have seen God's goodness throughout this study.

LIVE THE WORD

- How did you do on accomplishing your personal application this week?

GROW~LOOKING UP~ 45 MINUTES

MEMORIZE THE WORD

- With a partner, share the memory verses for this study.

DISCUSS THE PASSAGE

- Share some of the theological truths and life lessons you have discovered during your study of Hebrews.

ENGAGE~LOOKING UP~ 30 MINUTES

LIVE THE WORD

- What are some practical ways that we can continue to apply the truths we have learned as a group during this study?

TOOL BOX

- Recap what you have learned about making disciples: Big Blue, New Believer Follow Up, Picture of a Maturing Disciple, and Discover Bible Groups and share examples for how these tools have helped you in your relationships with lost friends.

PRAY BIG FOR THE LOST

- Add names to Big Blue and pray for an opportunity to share your story with your friends this week.

APPENDIX

A. BIBLE STUDY TOOLS OVERVIEW

OBSERVE:

Every time we study the Bible, the first thing to ask is, “What do I see?” This is the crucial skill of observation, which lays the groundwork for the rest of our study. Here are four tasks involved in observation which should be performed in the order below:

Observation Task 1: Mark up the passage by visually identifying the following specific elements:

- **Underline** all verbs. A verb is a word or group of words used to indicate either that an action is taking place (“we will reign with Him”) or that a state or condition exists (“we are faithless”). Verbs are often the most significant indicators of the author’s flow of thought.
- Circle key words or phrases. These are words or short phrases that are important theologically or thematically (they set the theme or main idea for the passage).
- Highlight repeated words or phrases. Also, include words and phrases that are closely related even if not exact duplicates (such as “suffer hardship” and “endure suffering”). You’ll also want to highlight things that are repeated from previous passages.
- Box connecting words. These important words indicate the logical connection between words, phrases, and clauses. Here are eight types of common connecting words to look for:
 1. **Comparison** either points out similarities between two or more related ideas or simply joins like ideas. Comparison words include: and, like, as, just as, also, so also, even so.
 2. **Contrast** points out dissimilarities between ideas. Contrast words include: but, rather, yet, however.
 3. **Purpose** indicates the intended goal of an idea or action, whether or not it was realized. Purpose words include: that, so that, in order that.
 4. **Result** is similar to “purpose,” but indicates the actual consequence, whether or not it was intended. Result words include: that, so that, as a result, with the result that.
 5. **Cause** expresses the basis or cause of an action. Cause words include: because, since, and sometimes for.
 6. **Explanation** is what follows and further explains the previous idea, giving reasons why it is true, why it occurred, or simply adding additional information. Look for the key word “for.”
 7. **Inference** provides a logical consequence, conclusion, or summary to the previous discussion. Inference words include: therefore, for this reason.
 8. **Condition** presents a condition that must occur before a certain action or conclusion can take place. The statement may or may not reflect reality (i.e., it could be hypothetical). Key word is “if.”

Observation Task 2: List 2-3 primary themes you see in the passage each week

A primary theme is the big idea, the central truth, or command that the passage focuses on. After reading the passage, write your themes as single words or short phrases. Identifying these themes at the beginning of your study will help you develop a good overall grasp of the passage.

Observation Task 3: Write two or more observations per verse

Our observations might identify people, places, or events, point out repeated words or key terms, record important connections between words and sentences, or even point out something missing that we expected to see.

Observation Task 4: Record your own interpretive questions

Here are a few examples:

WHO IS	WHAT IS THE	WHY DID THE AUTHOR	HOW
....James talking about?meaning of this word?choose this word?was this action accomplished?
....accomplishing the action?significance of this phrase?include this phrase, statement or command?will this situation occur?
....benefiting from the action?implication of this statement?not say _____?	
....relationship between these phrases?			

INTERPRET:

Our observation of a passage should stir interesting yet challenging questions, leading us to the second stage of our Bible study: interpretation. Fortunately, we do not have to run to a commentary or study Bible for answers (though these are helpful tools to check our conclusions). Use the following six methods, as needed, to tackle a variety of questions.

Interpretation Method 1: Use the context.

Look for important clues in the sentences and paragraphs that come before and after the verse in question. Try to follow the author's flow of thought through the whole chapter. This may take you to the previous lesson, so have it handy as a review. You may need to read ahead for clues.

Interpretation Method 2: Study cross-references.

Cross references are simply other passages in any book of the Bible that are somehow related to the verses you are studying. They often prove incredibly helpful as you seek to understand your passage. A few such cross references can be found in the margins of most English Bibles, but more can be found by visiting the online reference www.biblestudytools.com. Simply type in the book and chapter in the box to the left of the "Search" button and then click "Search." All of the chapter will appear on the screen. Be sure that "New American Standard" is your selected Bible in the drop down box, and then click the box next to "Cross References" so that numbers appear throughout the passage. Clicking any of these will move your screen to the bottom of the page where you will find a series of cross references for specific verses within the passage. This is a great tool for answering tough questions!

Interpretation Method 3: Look up key words.

While looking up a key word in English is helpful, doing so in Greek is far better and is surprisingly easy, thanks to the internet. Simply log onto www.biblestudytools.com, and as an example, type in the book and chapter in the box to the left of the "Search" button and then click "Search." All of the chapter will appear on the screen. Be sure that "New American Standard" is your selected Bible in the drop down box, and then click the box next to "Strong Numbers" so that most of the words will be highlighted in blue. Clicking on any of these will bring up a new screen that will tell you the Greek word used here, its possible definitions, and the total number of times it is used in each book of the New Testament (NT). Click on any of the other NT books (under the title "NAS Verse Count"), and get a list of every verse in that book that uses this Greek word. What used to take hours now takes seconds!

Interpretation Method 4: Look up background information

You can find helpful insights by looking up confusing names or words in a Bible dictionary or by looking up the particular verses you are studying in a background commentary. One of the best dictionaries is *The New Bible Dictionary* by Wood & Marshall. The *IVP Bible Background Commentary* by Craig Keener is another excellent example of a verse-by-verse background commentary.

Interpretation Method 5: Tackle tough questions step-by-step

When trying to answer the most challenging questions, follow this four-step process:

1. List all the options. Always start by brainstorming every possible answer to your question.
2. List pros and cons for each option. See all the evidence you can find that either argues for or against a particular option. This evidence comes from your study of key words, the grammar of the sentence, the context of surrounding verses and the book as a whole, cross references to other books, and comparison with your overall understanding of Christian theology.
3. Choose the most likely option. Look at your evidence for each option. Typically, evidence from the immediate context is most important, followed closely by evidence from the book as a whole. Evidence from other books of the Bible, or from Christian theology as a whole, does not carry quite as much weight unless the solution contradicts a clear passage elsewhere or a major tenant of Christian doctrine. In that case, since Scripture never lies and God cannot contradict Himself, you must eliminate that option.
4. Decide on your certainty level. Once you have chosen the best solution, step back for a second and humbly gauge how certain you are of its accuracy (90% = I am very sure this is correct ... 60% = This solution is just a bit more likely than the others!). Finally, talk with others and check commentaries or reference books to see what solutions they have chosen and why.

Interpretation Method 6: Compare multiple translations

This packet uses the New American Standard (NASB) translation. You can often find helpful interpretive clues by comparing this translation with other translations. The New King James Version (NKJV), like the NASB, is a fairly word-for-word translation of the Greek text. The New International Version (NIV) and the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) are excellent phrase-to-phrase translations of the Greek and thus often easier to read. Another excellent phrase-to-phrase Bible, which includes extensive translation notes, is the New English Translation (NET) available online for free at net.bible.org. You can find and compare numerous translations of any Bible passage at www.biblestudytools.com.

APPLY:

Our Bible Study is not over until we practically apply what we have learned to our everyday lives. And, we know that because we are relational by nature, our learning and growth can and should impact other people in our lives.

The Relational Application section in this study provides an opportunity to **connect the personal application** of God's word **with the relational spheres** we live in.

Application Task 1:

1. Prayerfully determine the **main biblical truth or principle** that God revealed to you during your study. A principle is a fact stated or implied in a passage that is relevant to our lives and not specific to a particular person or time. A few questions to ask are:

- Is there a promise for me to claim?
- Is there a truth for me to believe?
- Is there a command for me to obey?

Application Task 2:

2. Determine how this truth impacts the **four main relational areas** in your life.

God

- How does this truth stretch me in my relationship with God?
- Is there something from which I need to confess and repent?
- Are there some characteristics of God of which I am reminded to praise or worship Him?

Family/Friends

- How does this truth impact my relationship with my family or friends?
- How could I share this truth with these loved ones?
- Is there something or someone specific I can pray for?

Work

- Is there an opportunity to integrate this truth in my work environment?
- Is there a next step of ministry I can take based on this truth?
- How does this truth impact my attitude, decision-making and conversations at work?

Service

- How does this truth change my view of the people in the world around me?
- Is there a way to care for, serve or reach out to the others based on this truth?
- Is there a next step of ministry I can take based on this truth?

(Example on next page)

Here is an example from Psalm 1:

- Pray that Bible translation ministries will make significant progress in unreached areas of the world.

SERVICE
GOD

- Praise God each morning this week for the gift of His Word.
- Meditate on each lesson's memory verse during each week of this study.

MAIN TRUTH: A healthy, righteous life is rooted in God's word

- Look for ways to winsomely speak truth into the conversations I have at work.

WORK
FAMILY/FRIENDS

- Ask my spouse what God is showing him/her through the Word this week.

B. ADDITIONAL STUDY RESOURCES

ONLINE RESOURCES

biblestudytools.com - online word studies

blueletterbible.org - online word studies

soniclight.com - online commentary

bestcommentaries.com - online commentary database

DISCIPLESHIP/BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

Living By the Book by Howard Hendricks and Charles Swindoll

A more in-depth book on how to study the Bible using the tools discussed in this packet.

The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman

A highly motivational analysis of Jesus' own principles of evangelism and discipleship.

The Lost Art of Disciple Making by Leroy Eims

This practical resource will give you a detailed structure to follow and great content to cover as you begin to disciple a new believer.

A Survey of Bible Doctrine by Charles Ryrie

An easy-to-read, relatively short systematic theology primer that you can walk a new believer through to ground them in the faith.

Essentials of the Faith by Grace Bible Church, College Station, TX

This small group Bible study packet walks a new believer through the fundamental trusts and practices of the Christian faith in ten self-paced lessons.

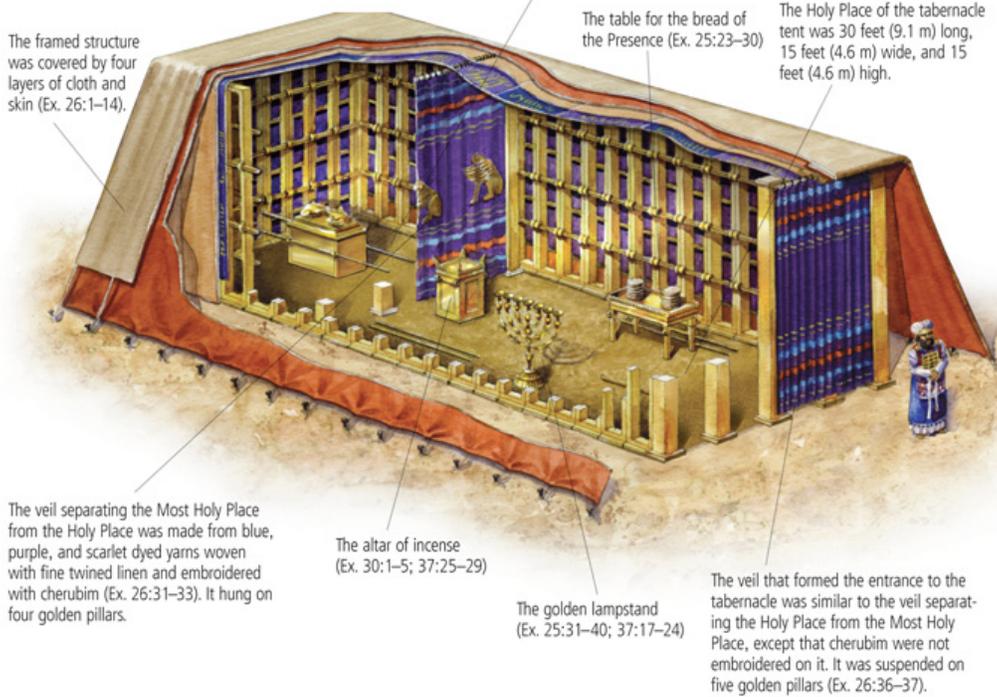
** Note: Grace Bible Church does not always agree with the views of these commentaries. These are good tools to help understand hard passages, but the particular theological views reflect the author, of the commentary and not those of Grace Bible Church.*

C. OLD TESTAMENT TABERNACLE AND TEMPLE

THE TABERNACLE TENT

The entire tent was 45 feet (13.7 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It was a wooden skeletal structure, overlaid with gold, with no solid roof or front wall (Ex. 26:15–29). Five wooden bars (overlaid with gold) passed through rings attached to each frame (Ex. 26:26–30).

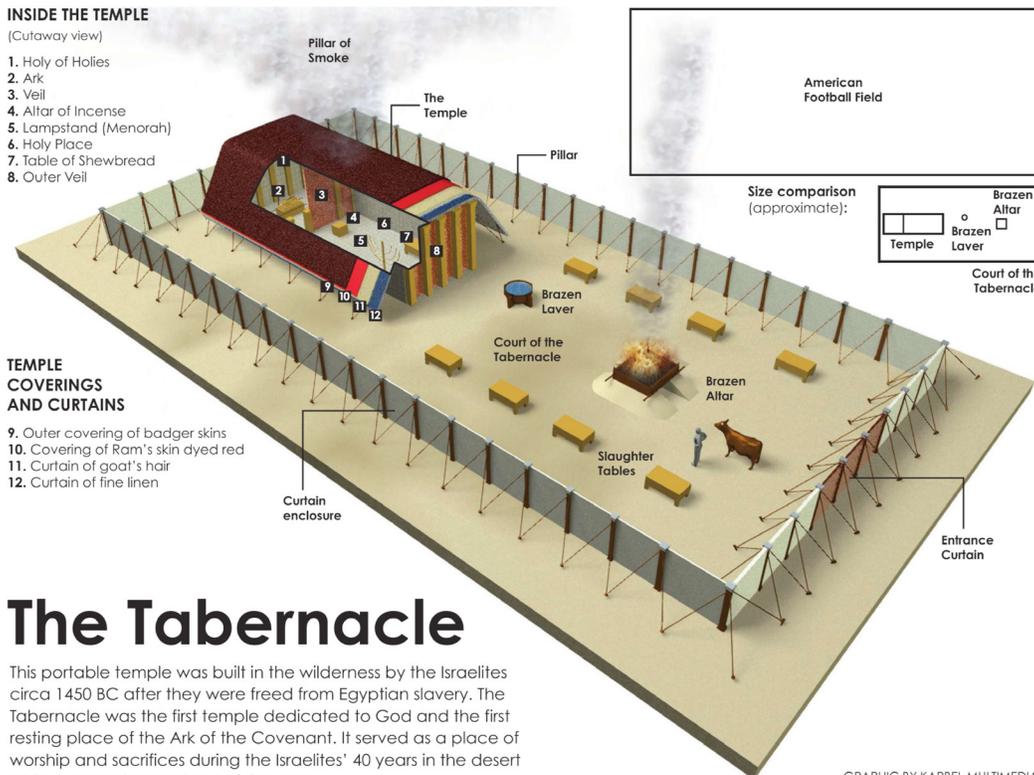
The Most Holy Place was a 15-foot (4.6-m) cube, containing only the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10–22; 37:1–9). It was here that Yahweh would descend to meet with his people in a cloud theophany (divine appearance). The high priest could enter only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (see note on Heb. 9:7).



INSIDE THE TEMPLE

(Cutaway view)

1. Holy of Holies
2. Ark
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Lampstand (Menorah)
6. Holy Place
7. Table of Shewbread
8. Outer Veil



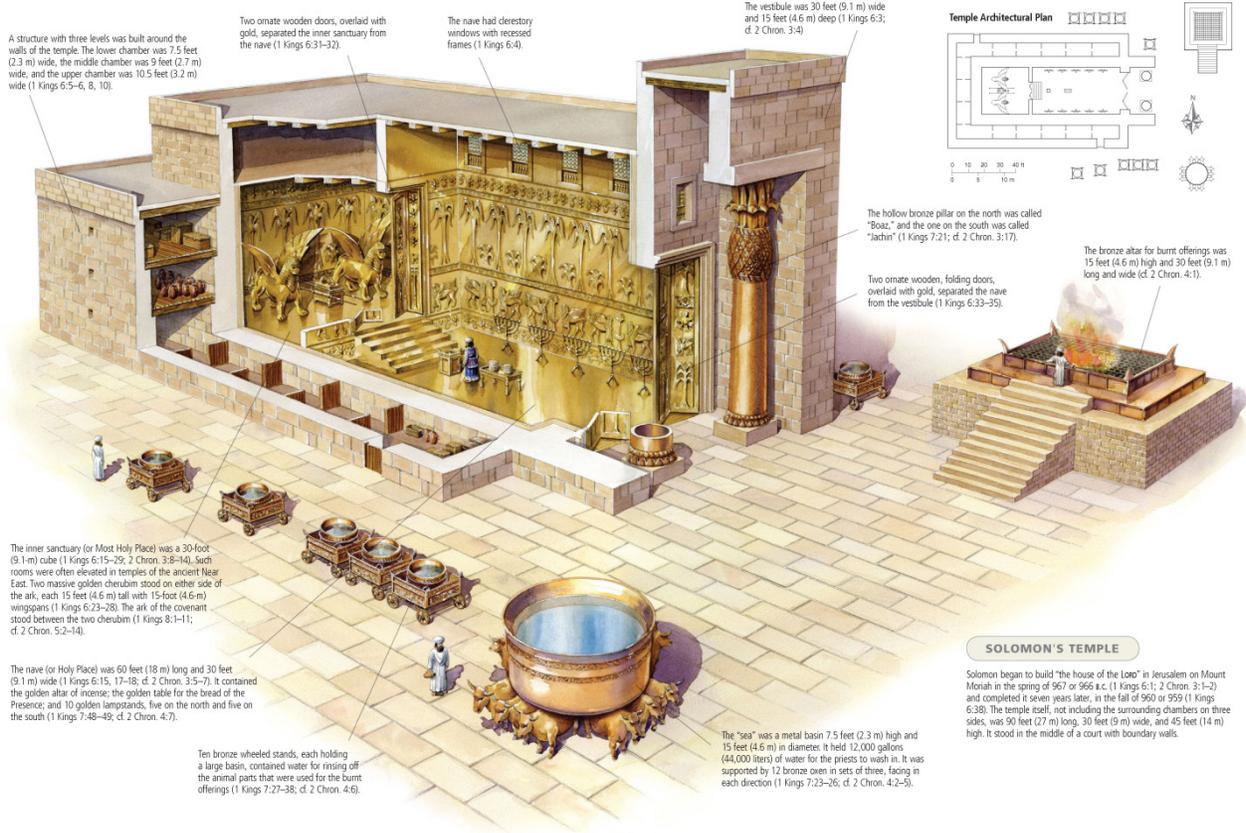
TEMPLE COVERINGS AND CURTAINS

9. Outer covering of badger skins
10. Covering of Ram's skin dyed red
11. Curtain of goat's hair
12. Curtain of fine linen

The Tabernacle

This portable temple was built in the wilderness by the Israelites circa 1450 BC after they were freed from Egyptian slavery. The Tabernacle was the first temple dedicated to God and the first resting place of the Ark of the Covenant. It served as a place of worship and sacrifices during the Israelites' 40 years in the desert while conquering the land of Canaan.

GRAPHIC BY KARBEL MULTIMEDIA.
COPYRIGHT 2008 LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE

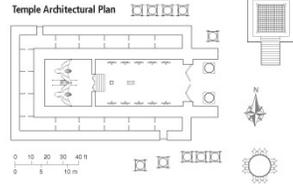


A structure with three levels was built around the walls of the temple. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (2.7 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5-6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31-32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).

The vestibule was 30 feet (9.1 m) wide and 15 feet (4.6 m) deep (1 Kings 6:3; cf. 2 Chron. 3:4).



The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "sashim" (1 Kings 7:21; cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:33-35).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (cf. 2 Chron. 4:1).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1 m) cube (1 Kings 6:15-20; 2 Chron. 3:8-14). Such rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim stood on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15-foot (4.6 m) wingspan (1 Kings 6:23-28). The ark of the covenant stood between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1-11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2-14).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17-18; cf. 2 Chron. 3:5-7). It contained the golden altar of incense; the golden table for the bread of the Presence; and 10 golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48-49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).

Ten bronze wheeled stands, each holding a large basin, contained water for rinsing off the animal parts that were used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27-38; cf. 2 Chron. 4:6).

The "sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) high and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (44,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by 12 bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23-26; cf. 2 Chron. 4:2-5).

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1-2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27 m) long, 30 feet (9 m) wide, and 45 feet (14 m) high. It stood in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

ENGAGE TOOL BOX

BIG BLUE

“The Legend of Big Blue” -- In 2007, a dedicated group of believers in Iowa began to meet as a missional community. A cornerstone of their weekly meetings was a time of prayer for the lost. Names of lost friends were written on a leftover piece of blue flooring material, which was then laid in the middle of the room to be prayed over. Each week, as members recalled people they had met, new names were added to the list. A time of intense prayer would follow as disciples got on their knees to pray for the names on the “Big Blue.” As these groups multiplied and spread to other states, so did the inclusion of Big Blue.

Each week, we will add names of our lost friends and those we would like to train on a large piece of blue poster board called “Big Blue.”

Draw a line down the middle of Big Blue, and label the left side “Bless” and the right side “Train.” Every time we meet people, we want to ask the question, “Is this someone who needs to be blessed with the gospel or someone who needs training to multiply?” Leave space under the name for others in their oikos and find ways to be intentional to meet their network of friends and family. (You can read about oikoses in another section of this appendix.)

BLESS

After spending time finding and creating interest with people, ask friends if they (and their oikos) would be interested in reading the Bible with you. Underline names of those we are reading the Bible with, and put a cross next to anyone’s name who starts following Christ.

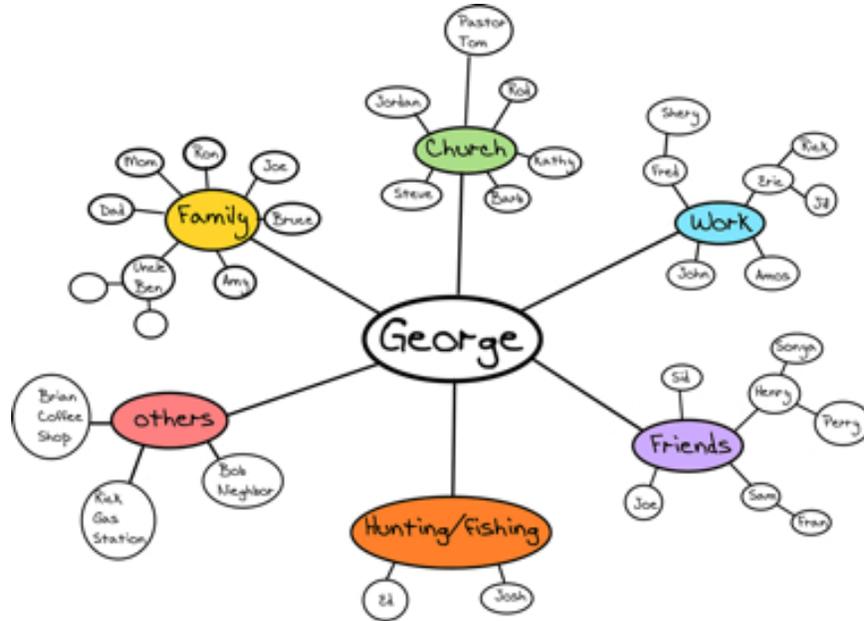
TRAIN

For those who have already been blessed by the gospel, we want to help them learn to multiply their lives and share the gospel with others. You can share with them the tools we will learn in this group.

OIKOS MAPPING

Oikos Mapping is a tool that has revolutionized the way many Christians think about evangelism. Simply put, oikos is a Greek word that means family. A family in Jesus' time would also include servants, extended family, and anyone else residing in their home. Basically, it's their circle of influence. For us, this could include not only our family but our friends, coworkers, and acquaintances. It can even include the guy at the gas station that you see every morning. It is anyone that we commonly come in contact with on a regular basis giving you the ability to, even in a small way, have a bit of influence in their lives.

So what does this have to do with us, and how does it help us to spread the gospel? Well the word oikos is used about 120 times in the New Testament. Often times, when Jesus found people that were open to His message, He would eventually share the message with the entire family network, their oikos. A great example is when Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4). After Jesus revealed His message and who he was, she went and told her oikos, the whole town, and they came to hear Jesus and many were healed.



Draw your Oikos Map: Think about the people in your spheres of influence. With whom do you live, work or play? Who are you near that may be of a different ethnicity, nationality, or socio-economic group?

DISCOVERY BIBLE GROUPS (DBGs)

This method is purposefully very simple, reproducible, and obedience-oriented. You should focus on facilitating discussion about the passage, rather than “teaching” or adding your own knowledge to the discussion. The Holy Spirit is the main teacher for this study. To learn more about this tool, please read the introduction in Lesson 6 of this guide.

CONNECT ~ 15 MINUTES

- Ask the group: “What are you thankful for, and what has stressed you out this week? Did you see an answered prayer this week?” Have each person share briefly and set an example by recording their responses.
- After the first meeting, ask: “Did you do what you said you would this past week?” Ask everyone to share.
- After the first meeting, ask: “Did you share with the people you said you would this past week?” Ask everyone to share.

GROW ~ 15-20 MINUTES

- Say: “Let’s see what the Bible teaches us today.” Starting with Genesis 1:1-25, read the passage twice out loud – asking different people to read it. (Go through one passage each meeting time.)
- Ask for someone to retell the passage in their own words like they were telling a friend who wasn’t there.
- Ask: “Do you agree with their retelling? Is there something they added or left out that they shouldn’t have?” If the group doesn’t miss a key component of the passage, continue on to the discussion questions. If they miss something, read the passage again. If someone states something that isn’t in the passage, ask, “Where did you find [what they said] in this passage?” Reread the passage, if necessary.
- Ask Discussion Question #1: “What does this passage teach us about God?”
- Ask Discussion Question #2: “What does this passage teach us about people?”
- Ask Discussion Question #3: “What do you like about this passage?”

ENGAGE ~ 15 MINUTES

- Ask Discussion Question #4: “If we believe this passage is from God, how must we change? How are you going to obey what God says in this passage this week?” Have everyone share. This should be something very specific that you can say yes or no to doing the next time you have a DBG meeting.
- Ask Discussion Question #5: Whom are you going to share this passage with before we meet again? Have everyone share.
- Ask: Is there any way we can pray for you this week?

Discovery Bible Group Passage List: Creation to Christ

Genesis 1:1-25	Matthew 3; John 1:29-34
Genesis 2:4-24	Matthew 4:1-11
Genesis 3:1-13	John 3:1-21
Genesis 3:14-24	John 4:1-26, 39-42
Genesis 6:5-8	Luke 5:17-26
Genesis 6:9-8:14	Mark 4:35-41
Genesis 8:15-9:17	Mark 5:1-20
Genesis 12:1-8, 15:1-6, 17:1-7	John 11:1-44
Genesis 22:1-19	Matthew 26:17-30
Exodus 12:1-28	John 18:1-19:16
Exodus 20:1-21	Luke 23:32-5
Leviticus 4:1-35	Luke 24:1-35
Isaiah 53	Luke 24:36-53
Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20	John 3:1-21

