



HEBREWS CHAPTER 7 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- Have you ever met a celebrity that you like and/or love? How did you react?
- What do you think it means to have access to someone or something?
- Opening Prayer**
- Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

- PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Hebrews 7:1-28)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

BACKGROUND OF HEBREWS CHAPTER 7

- Before reading Hebrews chapter 7, it is important to understand some of the backdrop and context. In Genesis 14:18-20, Melchizedek is a strange and almost eerie figure in Scripture. He arrives out of the blue; there is nothing about his life, his birth, his death or his descent. He simply arrives. He gives Abraham bread and wine. He blesses Abraham and then he vanishes from the stage of history with the same unexplained suddenness as he arrived. Melchizedek is understood to be a foreshadowing of Christ and this is the lens through which Hebrews chapter 7 will be broken down with Melchizedek being a foreshadowing of Jesus. As great as Melchizedek obviously was in Genesis 14, the author of Hebrews continues with the theme found throughout the book of Hebrews. Jesus is better than

everything and everyone! Nothing and no one compare to Him, who He is, and what He offers.

Hebrews 7:1-10

- What are the distinctions that are made between the regular Old Testament priesthood and the priesthood of Melchizedek and thus the priesthood of Jesus? Why are these distinctions important to us today?
 - The Old Testament priesthood was based upon genealogical descent. In other words, men were born into the priesthood. It was what they inherited. The priesthood of Melchizedek was based upon personal qualification alone. It had nothing to do with what he inherited. Since Melchizedek is a foreshadowing of Jesus, it is important to understand that Jesus being our great High Priest has nothing to do with what He inherited but everything to do with what He brings to the table as the Son of God and God Himself. There is no one and nothing that loves us more completely than Jesus and there is no one and nothing that provides forgiveness of sins in the ways that Jesus did and does.
 - What or who are you sometimes tempted to rely on more fully than Jesus? What do you do during these times?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- The name Melchizedek means “king of righteousness.” The word Salem, where Melchizedek was from means “peace.” So Melchizedek was both the king of righteousness and peace and this is yet another way how he was a foreshadowing and/or symbol of Jesus. As great as Abraham was for the Jews, this Melchizedek was in fact much better because it was Abraham who sacrificed to him and not the other way around. It was Abraham who gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything. Jesus is both the King of righteousness and peace.
 - Who or what do you typically look to for peace in this world and in your life?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Hebrews 7:11-25

- From beginning to end, the Jewish priesthood was dependent on physical things. Character, ability, and personality had nothing to do with it. But the new priesthood was dependent on a life that is indestructible, and that life was the life of Jesus Christ. Christ's priesthood depended not on physical things but on what he was in himself. With the new priesthood of Jesus (and Melchizedek symbolized this

new priesthood), it was no longer outward ceremonies and observances that made a priest worthy, but the worth was inward. Jesus can do what the old priesthood never could, He gives us access to God.

- In what or who do you usually find your sense of worth and value? How does Jesus being our great High Priest who has provided us access to God challenge where you find your sense of worth and value?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Hebrews 7:26-28

- What sticks out to you about these verses?
- What is encouraging to you about these verses?
- What is challenging to you about these verses?
- How can you live these verses out in practical ways this week?

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time

Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Hebrews Chapter 8)



HEBREWS CHAPTER 7 (STUDENT)

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everything and everyone! Nothing and no one compare to Him, who He is, and what He offers.

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- What are the distinctions that are made between the regular Old Testament priesthood and the priesthood of Melchizedek and thus the priesthood of Jesus? Why are these distinctions important to us today?
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