Hebrews 10:14-18
September 18, 2022

FBC SUMMIT Students

INTRODUCTION

If someone tells you a big secret, are you more likely to keep that secret or let it slip?

Why is it sometimes hard to keep secrets?

Sometimes it's wrong to keep a secret and other times it's wrong to tell a secret. How can you know the difference?

God wants us to know Him fully, and that is an incredible thing. But God does keep a secret from us. Jesus is going to come again, and literally no one besides God knows when that will happen.

Why do you think God keeps the timing of Jesus's return a secret?

How does the anticipation of Jesus's return make you feel—scared, excited, confused, uncertain, or something else?

DISCUSSION

Why do you think God is concerned not only with our hearts, but also our actions in worship?

While it's true that God is concerned with the heart, our actions actually demonstrate the validity of what we claim is happening on the inside. To that end, God is also concerned with our external expressions of worship. Though these words applied to the Old Testament forms of worship, they also give us insight into worship in our day and time. In our day and time, though, there is a fundamental difference in worship, and it's rooted in the gospel.

>>>AS A GROUP, READ HEBREWS 9:12.

How did Christ eliminate the need for the ritual of sacrifice?

Why is this significant to believers?

Earthly high priests had to make animal sacrifices to God regularly on behalf of sins, but Jesus' sacrificial death is a once-for-all sacrifice—"by His own blood."

How did the writer of Hebrews compare Jesus as High Priest to earthly priests? What difference does this make?

Earthly priests entered sanctuaries "made with hands" to offer animal sacrifices. The high priest could enter the "holy place" only once per year. They served in the presence of men and offered animal sacrifices to God. Christ is High Priest in the eternal sanctuary. His sacrifice, through His death, is a once-for-all sacrifice. Christ serves forever in the presence of God.

>>>AS A GROUP, READ HEBREWS 10:14-18.

In your own words, how does this passage show us the gospel?

How should what Jesus has done impact the way we worship God?

What are some of the ways the Old Testament terms, combined with the freedom that comes from Christ, impact our physical acts of worship?

We are people who have been forgiven. As forgiven people, we should worship with the kind of freedom that reflects what Jesus has done on our behalf at the cross.

APPLICATION

What are some ways you can actively prepare yourself to come into the corporate worship setting?

How has this study challenged the way you think about your posture in worship?

What's the value in stretching outside your physical comfort zone as an expression of worship?

PRAYER

As you close your small group time, ask the Lord to give you a greater love of the gospel that is reflected in your freedom in worship.

LOOKING AHEAD

Encourage your group to look ahead to next week's scripture passage. We will resume our study of 1 Thessalonians.

September 25, 2022 --- 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11

COMMENTARY

Bringing his comparison of the new and old priesthoods to an end, the author in these verses focused on the superiority of the sacrifice of Christ. The old sacrifices were only a shadow of the actual form of the blessed realities that come from the personal sacrifice of the Messiah. Citing Ps 40:6-8, the author demonstrated that God was no longer interested in the whole burnt offerings and sin offerings of the old covenant. The old sacrifices had to be offered continually, and they did not accomplish anything beyond ritual purification because they could not take away sins. This is why it was prophesied that the Messiah would come to do God's will. Jesus the Messiah offered one sacrifice for sins forever by offering Himself. Afterwards, He sat down at the throne of God. By His blood atonement, He has perfected forever those who are sanctified. The old sacrifices are no longer necessary because He offered the perfect sacrifice that perfects believers.