

The Year in Review – Questions to Consider

Psalms ~ Proverbs

Small Group Warm Up Question:

*Did you make a resolution for this past year? How did it go?
Are you making a resolution for the next year ahead?*

1. What were some of the challenges you faced this past year in your Bible reading plan? Where did you find success? How do you wish things had gone differently? What did you learn through your quiet times this past year?
 2. What were some of the challenges in life that you faced this past year? How did God use your time in the Psalms and Proverbs to help guide, carry, and strengthen you?
 3. What was your favorite part of the Psalms? Do you have a favorite Psalm? Why?
 4. What was your favorite part of the Proverbs? Do you have a favorite verse from Proverbs? Why?
 5. Try watching “Book of Psalms Summary” from the Bible Project (<https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-psalms/>) or look over some of the major themes or key idea of Psalms. How does this reinforce or summarize some of the best lessons God taught you this year from the Psalms?
 - a. Here is the Bible Project’s “big idea” from Psalms: “Psalms teaches us to neither ignore our pain nor let it determine our lives. God will fulfill his promises from the Torah and send the Messiah. This book is all about the lament, praise, faith, and hope of God’s people.” Agree or disagree? What would you add or change?
 6. Try watching “Book of Proverbs Summary” from the Bible Project (<https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-proverbs/>) or look over some of the major themes or key idea of Proverbs. How does this reinforce or summarize some of the best lessons God taught you this year from the Proverbs?
 - a. Here is the Bible Project’s “big idea” from Proverbs: “Wisdom depends on trusting God and leads to life, but folly starts with distrusting God and leads to death.” Agree or disagree? What would you add or change?
 7. If you were to give advice to someone who was about to start reading the Psalms and Proverbs, what would you share?
 8. If you could encourage one person to be in the Word more in the next year, who would it be and why? How do you think you could best encourage or help them?
- More questions @ www.southfork.church/psalms-proverbs-discussion-guide

The Old Testament: Summarized & Surpassed in Jesus

The Book of Hebrews

Checkout The Bible Project’s YouTube video on Hebrews

- 1) **Jesus is the Greatest M_____!** - ch.1-2
More than the Creation - General Revelation
 - Hebrews 1:1–3 “Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son”**More than the Faithful Angelic Messengers - Special Revelation** - more excellent name, enthroned Son vs ministering spirits
 - Hebrews 1:3-4 “having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.”**More than the Fallen Angelic Messengers (incl. Satan)**
 - Hebrews 2:14–16 “that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil”
- P_____ A_____** - A Much Greater Message
Hebrews 2:1 “Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.”
- 2) **Jesus is the Greatest P_____/Leader!** - ch.3-4
More than Moses - a servant vs the Son
 - Hebrews 3:3–6 “For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses.”
- L_____ to the Source of Our Salvation** - Don’t Rebel & Turn Away, Follow Jesus into Eternal Rest
 - Hebrews 3:14 “For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.”
 - Hebrews 4:7 “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”

**3) Jesus is the Greatest P_____ & K_____ - ch.5-7
More than The Priesthood** - greater than every High Priest, greater than the Levitical priesthood, order of Aaron, tempted in every way, without sin, a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek, the source of salvation to all who obey him, Melchizedek - King of Righteousness, King of Salem - King of Peace

- Hebrews 2:17–18 “because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.”
- Hebrews 7:16 “who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.”

S_____ The Only Way for Reconciliation

- Hebrews 7:22, 25 “This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.... Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.”

4) Jesus is the Once & for All, Forever S_____ **More than The Sacrifices** - ch.8-10

- Hebrews 9:13–14 “how much more will the blood of Christ”
- Hebrews 9:22 “without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.”
- Hebrews 9:26 “he has appeared once for all...to put away sin”

Faithfully R_____ His Forgiveness - Don't Miss Out on Forgiveness from Sin

- Hebrews 9:27–28 “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment”
- Hebrews 10:22–25 “**let us draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith... [23] **Let us hold fast** the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. [24] And **let us consider how to stir up one another** to love and good works, [25] not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

5) Finally - Be Encouraged & Encourage Others - ch.11-13

- Hebrews 11:1–3 “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. [2] For by it the people of old received their commendation. [3] By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”
- Hebrews 12:3 “Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.”
- Hebrews 13:1 “Let brotherly love continue.”

Charles Spurgeon's conversion - Primitive Methodist chapel at Colchester, England, on January 6, 1850: “Look unto Me: I am sweating great drops of blood. Look unto Me; I am hanging on the Cross. Look: I am dead and buried. Look unto Me; I rise again. Look unto Me; I ascend; I am sitting at the Father's right hand. o, look to Me! Look to Me!”

- Isaiah 45:22 “Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.”
- Hebrews 12:1–2 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, [2] looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

This Next Week's Psalms & Proverbs Reading Plan:

Week 1: Genesis 1-15

- **Read the Old Testament w/Us:** www.southfork.church/2024
- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo

The Old Testament: Summarized & Surpassed in Jesus

The Book of Hebrews

Checkout The Bible Project's YouTube video on Hebrews

1) **Jesus is the Greatest Message!** - ch.1-2

More than the Creation - General Revelation

- Hebrews 1:1–3 “Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. [3] He is the radiance of the glory of God & the exact imprint of his nature, & he upholds the universe by the word of his power.”

More than the Faithful Angelic Messengers - Special Revelation - more excellent name, enthroned Son vs ministering spirits

- Hebrews 1:3-4 "After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, [4] having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.”

More than the Fallen Angelic Messengers (incl. Satan)

- Hebrews 2:14–16 “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, [15] and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. [16] For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.”

Pay Attention - A Much Greater Message

Hebrews 2:1 “Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.”

2) **Jesus is the Greatest Prophet/Leader!** - ch.3-4

More than Moses - a servant vs the Son

- Hebrews 3:3–6 “For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. [4] (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) [5] Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, [6] but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.”

Listen to the Source of Our Salvation - Don’t Rebel & Turn Away, Follow Jesus into Eternal Rest

- Hebrews 3:14 “For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.”
- Hebrews 4:7 “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”

3) **Jesus is the Greatest Priest & King** - ch.5-7

More than The Priesthood - greater than every High Priest, greater than the Levitical priesthood, order of Aaron, tempted in every way, without sin, a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek, the source of salvation to all who obey him, Melchizedek - King of Righteousness, King of Salem - King of Peace

- Hebrews 2:17–18 “Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. [18] For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.”
- Hebrews 7:3 “He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.”

- Hebrews 7:16 “who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.”

Seek The Only Way for Reconciliation

- Hebrews 7:22, 25 “This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.... Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.”

4) Jesus is the Once & for All, Forever Sacrifice More than The Sacrifices - ch.8-10

- Hebrews 9:13–14 “For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, [14] how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.”
- Hebrews 9:22 “Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.”
- Hebrews 9:26 “for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”
- Hebrews 10:4 “For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.”
- Hebrews 10:14 “For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”

Faithfully Receive His Forgiveness - Don't Miss Out on Forgiveness from Sin

- Hebrews 9:27–28 “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, [28] so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a

second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

- Hebrews 10:22–25 “**let us draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. [23] **Let us hold fast** the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. [24] And **let us consider how to stir up one another** to love and good works, [25] not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

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Charles Spurgeon’s conversion - Primitive Methodist chapel at Colchester, England, on January 6, 1850

- Isaiah 45:22 “**Turn to me** and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.”
- Hebrews 12:1–2 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, [2] **looking to Jesus**, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

"He began thus: *'My dear friends, this is a very simple text indeed. It says, "Look." Now that does not take a deal of effort. It ain't lifting your foot or your finger; it is just "look."* Well, a man need not go to college to learn to look. You may be the biggest fool, and yet you can look. A man need not be worth a thousand a year to look. Anyone can look; a child can look. But this is what the text says. Then it says, *"Look unto Me."* 'Ay,' said he, in broad Essex, *'many of ye are looking to yourselves. No use looking there. You'll never find comfort in yourselves.'* Then the good man followed up his text in this way: *'Look unto Me: I am sweating great drops of blood. Look unto Me; I am hanging on the Cross. Look: I am dead and buried. Look unto Me; I rise again. Look unto Me; I ascend; I am sitting at the Father's right hand. O, look to Me! Look to Me!'* When he had got about that length, and managed to spin out ten minutes, he was at the length of his tether."

Charles Spurgeon's retelling of the sermon that led to his
conversion, 1850

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