

Jesus Is What You Need

Hebrews 7:1-21

As we continue our sermon series in the book of Hebrews, we are desiring to encounter the presence of God in community and embody his presence to others. This week, the preacher takes a deep dive into the somewhat-obscure and little-talked-about Old Testament figure of Melchizedek. And while there's certainly a lot of intrigue and speculation about this passage, it's important that we keep the main idea at the forefront: Jesus really is everything we need, even when we don't quite understand.

GETTING STARTED

We start each week by intentionally being present to one another. If you need a little help getting the conversation going, consider starting with these questions...

Ice Breaker

What is your favorite Easter tradition? Did you get to do it this year?

Going Deeper

What's something surprising or unexpected about you that most people wouldn't guess?

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Our discipleship to Jesus is meant to be a holistic way of living, involving our whole selves - **head, heart, and hands**. While each person will likely gravitate to one of these over the others, it's important we all consider how God's love affects our minds, our hearts, and our actions.

REMINDER: These guides are meant to facilitate PRESENCE - to God and one another - not to check boxes. Feel free to let conversation naturally flow to whichever questions connect with you personally. As the Spirit leads you, feel free to set aside this guide to pause, praise, and pray together.

HEAD

Read Genesis 14:17-20. What similarities do you see between Jesus and Melchizedek? Consider what he's called, what he does, and what he's like.

The early church may have had a hard time with Jesus as their high priest because Jesus didn't fit their expectations. Have you ever had an expectation of Jesus that needed to change based on the reality of who he is? What was it like to work through those things?

HEART

How are you tempted to "season" your life with Jesus or add him on to the things you want in life? How is your life different when you treat Jesus as an optional add-on, rather than the center of everything?

Where do you tend to look for blessings, a meaningful life, and hope outside of Jesus? *(If you need help identifying this, consider this question: What in your life, if you lost it today, would leave you devastated? Could that be a place of looking for blessing, life, or hope?)*

HANDS

What does it look like to lovingly show someone how the blessing, life, or hope they're looking for is only found in Jesus? How would you share this truth with someone who's convinced that they can find blessing, life, and hope somewhere else?

How do you think the reality that we have a "high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek" should impact how you live as a passionate Jesus follower?

PRACTICE OF PRESENCE

Close your discussion with a time of extended prayer (10-15min).

Consider using the Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) as a guide for your prayer time. The leader can read one line at a time, then leave space for people to pray into that line with personal prayers of gratitude, adoration, intercession, etc.

As you pray the Lord's prayer, you are invited to do so with the truths of Hebrews 7 in mind - that Jesus is our high priest forever; he is King of righteousness and of peace; he has no beginning or end; he gives true blessing; he has the power of indestructible life; and he offers a better hope.