# Draw Near: The Gospel According to Hebrews

Jesus: The Sacrifice

HEBREWS 9:11-14

## SETTING THE SCENE

For centuries, the people of God came to the temple with sacrifices—offerings meant to cover their sins and cleanse their consciences. But these sacrifices had to be repeated over and over. They could point to something greater, but they couldn't actually make anyone clean.

But Jesus, as both our great high priest and the perfect offering, entered not a man-made temple but the very presence of God. He didn't bring the blood of animals—he brought his own. He did what no one else ever could: he washed us clean from the inside out. His sacrifice doesn't just cover sin—it removes guilt and shame at the deepest level.

### SCRIPTURE

11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) 12 he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

13 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.

### CORE TRUTH

Jesus offered himself as the perfect sacrifice—once and for all—removing our guilt and freeing us from shame. In him, we're finally clean.



#### DISCIPLESHIP GROUP GUIDELINES

- Safe Group: We strive for an environment where everyone can be open, and honest about his or her struggles and victories.
- Confidentiality: What is said in the group stays in the group.
- Listen: We want to value one another by really listening to what is being shared. Try to avoid thinking about how you are going to respond while someone is sharing.
- Pause: Allowing a pause in the conversation after one person shares and before the next person shares gives the person sharing a chance to finish. A pause also gives the group an opportunity to consider before responding.
- Silence: It is important to allow silence in the group as it provides an opportunity for people to think deeply, to gather their thoughts in order to share, and to genuinely consider what others have shared.
- One Conversation at a Time: Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations.
- No Fixing: We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Give encouragement and ask questions, but try not to solve or fix one another.
- No Rescuing: When people are sharing something deeply personal, please resist the tendency to try to make them feel better about themselves or their situation by providing immediate condolences. This will often cause people to stop sharing.
- Be Curious: By asking the next question, we communicate genuine interest. We keep the conversation moving forward while building relationships and intimacy.
- Be Self-Aware: Be mindful of how you are personally affecting the small group environment through your words, actions, and non-verbal communication. Be sensitive about the amount of time you share, whether too much (dominating) or not enough (hiding).
- Use "I" Statements: It is very easy to talk about other people's issues, but, for our purposes, we want to put ourselves on the table. Use "I" statements rather than "them", "the church", "people", "you", "us", "we", etc.
- Resolve Conflict Biblically: As a group we commit to extend grace to one another. Conflict is not bad, it's an opportunity for growth. We are all being transformed to be more like Jesus. Conflict and change are a part of that journey. (Matthew 18)
- Manage Technology: Let's respect one another by silencing alerts on our devices.

