

# RADIANT SAVIOR

## Week 5 – Radiant Savior Hebrews 4:14-5:10 – March 24, 2024

Check out one of these helpful resources:

How to Read Hebrews – Tim Mackie: <https://bit.ly/3OSjeXD>

Hebrews – Derwin Gray: <https://bit.ly/3OOTI5w>

*Allow God to speak to you through his written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow, and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you need to use all the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!*

### **KNOW** (Build Relationships)

1. When you read the term “high priest,” what comes to mind? What’s informing your understanding?
2. Share about a time you had someone in your life who was able to sympathize with something you were facing because they had been there.
3. Why is shared experience, even in difficulty, something that unites us to one another?
4. Share a time when you felt like you could approach someone in authority with confidence. What made you feel that way?
5. What are some things that make it difficult for you to draw near to God and be transparent with Him?
6. Share a time when you learned something through suffering or difficult circumstances.



## GROW: (Grow Spiritually)

1. Hebrews 4:14 says “let us hold fast our confession.” What is our confession? Do you think you’re able to articulate that to an unbeliever?
2. Hebrews 4:15 tells us that our High Priest Jesus is able to “sympathize with our weaknesses”. That word for *sympathize* in the Greek literally means to *co-suffer* or *suffer with*. Theologian John Owen said this about this verse: Christ “*is inclined from his own heart and affections to give...us help and relief...and he is inwardly moved during our sufferings and trials with a sense of fellow-feeling of them.*” (*An Exposition of the Epistle to the Hebrews*, 422) Why does it matter that Christ can sympathize with our weakness and suffering?
3. Explore the idea of drawing near to the "throne of grace" (4:16). What does this reveal about God's character and our access to Him?
4. Hebrews 5:2 says that Jesus “can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward.” Pastor and author Dane Ortlund says, “*The idea here in 5:2 is that Jesus does not throw his hands up in the air when he engages sinners. He is calm, tender, soothing, restrained. He deals with us gently.*” (*Gentle and Lowly*, 53) How does this affect your ideas of sin and repentance?
5. This whole passage hinges on the truth of the incarnation: that Jesus took on flesh, suffered like us, and died for us. Even now, the resurrected Jesus as both God and man sits enthroned (Philippians 2:9-11). Scottish minister John Duncan said that “*The dust of earth is on the throne of the Majesty on high.*” How does this allow you to draw near to the throne of grace with confidence (Heb 4:16)?
6. Read Hebrews 5:8-9. Discuss the idea of Jesus "learning obedience" and being "made perfect," and how does this relate to His role as our high priest? How does Jesus' suffering deepen our understanding of His priesthood?
7. Reflect on the significance of Jesus being "called by God to be a high priest" (5:10). Consider other passages that shed light on Christ's high priesthood (e.g., Psalm 110:4, Hebrews 7:11-28, 9:11-14) and how they enrich your understanding.



## SHOW: (Live on Mission)

1. How can you “hold fast our confession” this week? Are there people or situations where you need to speak the gospel? Share those and commit to pray for one another.
2. Spend concerted time praying with another about the trials and difficulties you’re facing. Do this with the *confidence* of knowing that Jesus is a *co-sufferer* with you and hears your prayers.
3. In what areas of your life do you need to "hold fast your confession" (4:14)? How can you strengthen your resolve in these areas?
4. What barriers prevent you from "drawing near to the throne of grace" (4:16)? How can you grow in these areas and experience God's mercy and grace more fully?
5. Identify an area where you are currently struggling or facing temptation. How can the truth of Jesus being "tempted in every way" (4:15) encourage you?