

Better (Hebrews)

Sermon Questions | 03.22.15

Opener

Share a time in your life when you became increasingly invested something, a project or a person. Were you completely invested or did you stop short of total immersion?

Read

Hebrews 8

Engaging with God in a Group

Pete described three different phases of the Christian life as (1) Old Covenant Living, (2) Middle Covenant Living and (3) New Covenant Living.

Briefly, Old Covenant Living is based on a sacrificial system where we are trying our best to live according to the Law so that God will bless us and not remove Himself from us. Middle Covenant Living is based on the Old Covenant but with a little Jesus sprinkled in to "help us" – still based on obedience earning God's blessing. New Covenant Living is based on better promises, not better performance!

What do you think of each phase Pete described? With which phase do you relate most? What would keep someone from moving from phase 1 or 2 to phase 3?

How might living in "phase 3" impact your life this week? At home? At work? In your friendships?

In the New Covenant, we have a relationship with God and have been given new promises. The promises Pete mentioned were: internal activity, intimate relationship with Him and indisputable forgiveness. Take a few minutes to discuss each one. What would it look like to live in these promises this week?

Engaging with God Alone

Continue to consider privately what would it look like to live in these promises this week.

Closing thoughts and prayer

Lord, will you bring us to New Covenant Living with you, based on the better promises you keep, not the better performance from us which is never possible.