

# Better (Hebrews)

Sermon Questions | 06.28.15

## Opener

Praise the Lord for our Savior, our precious Lord Jesus, the anchor of our faith, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Pray for God to bless our fellowship together so we can encourage each other to allow him to “work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.”

## Read

Hebrews 13:15-25

Hebrews 13:1-14

## Engaging with God in a Group

Hebrews 13 provides our church—as the body of Christ—with concluding exhortations. As Pete spoke about what it might be like to talk with Jesus at the Bema seat, He gave us a “top 10” list of ways he’ll describe our church to Jesus. Discuss each with your group.

10. We love people. (Hebrews 13:1-3). How have you seen this demonstrated in our church body?
9. We honor the institution of marriage and keep the marriage bed pure. (Hebrews 13:4). How do we “speak Christian truths with a Christian accent?” See Russell Moore’s article for more on this question.
8. We reject materialism and simplify our lives to share with the needy (Hebrews 13:5). How can you simplify your life so you are available to be more generous?
7. We stand confidently on Christ, our firm rock, and cling to Him no matter what we face. (Hebrews 13:6)

6. We go with Jesus outside the camp, strengthened by grace. We are outcasts from the world and from the legalism of religion. (Hebrews 13:9). What does this look like for you?
5. We express gratitude. (Hebrews 13:15). Name some ways you live a life of gratitude for Jesus' new and living way.
4. We share our stuff and serve and help others. (Hebrews 13:16). Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal anyone in your community who needs help.
3. We follow our leaders and obey them because leaders shepherd and give an account for their flock. (Hebrews 13:17)
2. We pray for our pastors and shepherds. (Hebrews 13:18). Pray for your leaders—pastors, elders, small group leaders, etc.
1. We let Jesus be our source for everything based on his finished work on the cross. He equips the called and he works in us and through us to do what is pleasing to him for his glory. (Hebrews 13:20-21)

## **Engaging with God Alone**

Which of the Top Ten for this week is your strongest, thanks and credit to the Lord? Which is your weakest? How might you pray in the midst of these realizations?

## **Closing thoughts and prayer**

Last week we spent time praying and asking the Spirit to reveal any areas where we weren't fully convinced that Jesus is better than anyone and anything else in our lives. If there was something revealed to you, discuss this with your group.

Based on your discussion above, pray specifically that our body will grow in the "better new and living way" and "may the God of peace work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."