



## Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: Hebrews 7:1-10

**Introduction:** What comes to mind when you think of a priest?

**Overview:** In this passage, the author returns to exploring Jesus' priesthood by considering Melchizedek. Just as Melchizedek was greater than Abraham so too Jesus' priesthood is greater than the Levitical priesthood. To turn away from Jesus is to reject the superior priest for the inferior. Ultimately, this passage explains why Jesus' priesthood is the best and only place to find reconciliation with God.



### Into the Word

*A key to this passage is understanding its "lesser to the greater" argument. According to this passage, how do we know the Levites were greater than the common Israelites? How do we know that Abraham is greater than the Levites? How do we know that Melchizedek was greater than Abraham? Order these people from least to greatest. Note: "Superior" and "inferior" here are not about individual value but of role.*

*A second key to this passage is to see Melchizedek as a "type" of Christ. A "type" is a person or pattern that foreshadows Christ's person or work. What does this passage tell us about Melchizedek? How might these details foreshadow Christ?*

Consider: Luke 24:13-27

**Resource: Christ and Melchizedek**

Why is Jesus' priesthood greater than the Levitical priesthood?



### Into the Heart

How would you describe your own experience of guilt? **Read Psalm 32.** What aspects of this psalm resonate with your own experience?

How does Jesus' superior priesthood shape or change how you address your guilt?

**Resource: Say No to the Gospel of Self-Forgiveness**



### Into the World

**Read Romans 2:14-16.** Everyone feels guilty because God's Law is written on our hearts. How do people try to deal with their guilt? Why won't their guilt go away?

**Resource: Idealism, Identity Politics, and Guilt That Won't Go Away**

How would you share the Gospel with someone who says, "I just can't forgive myself"?