

## **Growth Group Discussion Guide**

Passage: Hebrews 8:6-13

**Overview:** In this passage, the author explains the superiority of Jesus' ministry by exploring the superiority of the New Covenant. Just as God had promised, He has renewed, expanded, and fulfilled His covenant with His people through the work of Jesus. Ultimately, this passage encourages us to trust in Christ's ministry and receive the covenant blessings he has secured for us.



**Consider verses 7-9.** Why was it necessary for God to renew His covenant? Where in the Old Testament do we sense a longing for greater fulfillment?

Note: The word translated "new" doesn't mean brand new but new edition

Compare: Romans 8:3

**Consider verses 10-12.** What are the promises of the New Covenant? How do these new promises expand God's old promises?

Resource: Out with the Old and in with the New

In verse 13 the author describes the old covenant as obsolete. **Read Matthew 5:17-20**. How does Jesus' work shape our relationship to the Old Testament? Why don't Christians observe the civil or ceremonial laws of the Old Testament?



**Consider verse 12.** Through Christ's death, God has fulfilled His promise to fully atone for all of your sin. How can we live as if our sins still need to be atoned for? How does Christ's work speak to our regrets?

**Consider verse 10.** Through Christ, God has fulfilled His promise to write His Law on our hearts by giving us the Holy Spirit. How does Christ's work change how we approach God's commands?

Compare: Ezekiel 36:26-27

Resource: 3 Necessities for Renewed Christian Living



What is the value of Christians studying the Old Testament?

Resource: Why Should Christians Study the Old Testament?

Through Christ, God has expanded His covenant promises to all peoples. How is this expressed in our church? How can this new covenant promise inform our outreach?



## **Growth Group Prayer Guide**

"He always lives to maker intercession for them" (Heb 7:25)

## Use the prayers below to root your prayer for one another in Scripture.

Heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, according to the riches of your glory, grant us (or) to be strengthened with power through your Spirit, so that Christ may dwell in our (his, her) heart(s) through faith —that being rooted and grounded in love, we (he, she) may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that we (he, she) may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Based on Ephesians 3:15-19)
God of endurance and encouragement, grant us to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together we may with one voice glorify you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Based on Romans 15:5-6)
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, fill us (or) with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, that we (he, she) may walk in a manner worthy of you, fully pleasing to you, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of you. May we (he, she) be strengthened with all power, according to your glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy. (Based on Colossians 1:9-11)
Lord Jesus Christ, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort our hearts (or the heart of) and establish us (him, her) in every good work and word. (Based on 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)
Lord God, direct our hearts (or the heart of) to your love and to the steadfastness of Christ. (Based on 2 Thess 3:5)
Lord God, may the sharing of our (or) faith become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us (him, her) for the sake of Christ. (Based on Philemon 1:6)

"Prayer is nothing but taking God's promises to him, and saying to him, "Do as thou hast said." Prayer is the promise utilized." - Charles Spurgeon