



Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: Hebrews 9:23-28

Overview: In this passage, the author explores the past, present, and future work of Jesus. Unlike the sacrifices of the Old Testament, Jesus came to deal with sin once and for all. Unlike the priests of the Old Testament, Jesus intercedes for us in heaven itself. As certain as our own death, Jesus will return to judge the world and save His people. Ultimately, this passage encourages us to see Christ's work as certainties in our lives.



Into the Word

Verses 25-26 compares Jesus' death on the cross with the work of the priests in the Old Testament. According to this passage, how was Jesus' sacrifice better?

Consider: John 1:29

After Jesus rose from the dead he ascended into heaven (cf. Lk 24:50). According to verses 23-24, what is Jesus doing right now?

Compare: Hebrews 7:25; 10:12-13; 1 Corinthians 15:25

In verses 27-28 the author speaks of Jesus' return. How will Jesus' second coming be different than his first coming?

Resource: The Return of Christ



Into the Heart

Where do we tend to look for certainty or stability in our lives?

In verses 27-28 the author describes Jesus' work as a certainty. Which aspect of Christ's work (past, present, future) do you find the most grounding today?

Resource: Christ's Exaltation: The Ground of Our Hope



Into the World

What does our culture believe about death? Does this passage challenge these beliefs?

How can this passage help us come alongside those who fear death?

Consider: Hebrews 2:15

Resource: Why We Need to Talk About Death



Growth Group Prayer Guide

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

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

God of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of glory, give us (or _____) the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of you, having the eyes of our (his, her) heart(s) enlightened, that we (he, she) may know what is the hope to which you have called us (him, her), what are the riches of your glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of your power toward us who believe, according to the working of your great might. (Based on Ephesians 1:17-19)

Lord, make us (or _____) increase and abound in love for one another and for all, so that you may establish our (his, her) heart(s) blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (Based on 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)

May we (or _____) not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let our (his, her) requests be made known to you, O God. And may your peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard our (his, her) heart(s) and mind(s) in Christ Jesus. (Based on Philippians 4:6-7)

God of hope, fill us (or _____) with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we (he, she) may abound in hope. (Based on Romans 15:13)

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)

O Lord, help us (or _____) always to rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, and be constant in prayer. (Based on Romans 12:12)

*"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*