



Youth Bible Study and Reading Series

Junior Youth Term 1 - Year 8

Youth Studies and Notes

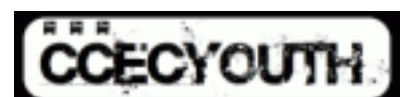
Jesus is Simply the Best (Part 1)

Hebrews Chapters 1-4

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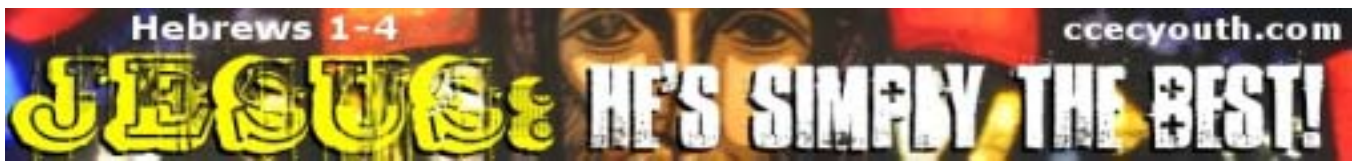
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Hebrews 1-4

ccecyouth.com

JESUS: HE'S SIMPLY THE BEST!



Overview of these Studies

Purpose of these Studies

As we sit down to study the Bible in our G-Teams, the aim is not to get through a set of questions. The aim is to get to know Jesus better through his Word. The questions in the end are simply to help us to understand the passage and therefore know Jesus better.

2 Timothy has this to say about the Bible:

14But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Why read the Bible?

- > v15 It makes us wise for Salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
- > v16 Because It's the very word of God
- > v17 It's useful in lots of ways.

Why study the Bible in our G-TEAMS?

- 1) So that we can know the salvation that comes by trusting in Jesus' death and resurrection.
- 2) As we read the Bible we are listening to the very voice of God!
- 3) The Bible will thoroughly equip us to live as Christians and serve God.

The Structure of these Studies

There are 4 types of questions in these studies:

Opener – these questions are a way of introducing the topic and getting people talking and interacting.

Observation – what does the text actually say?

Interpretation – what does the text mean?

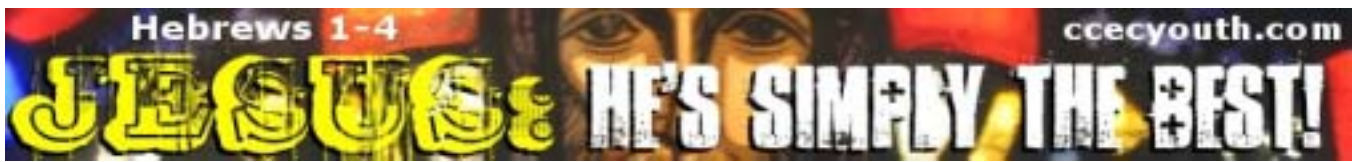
Application – how does the meaning of the text apply to me?

Instructions for the Use of these Studies

- Discuss the **Opener** question. Encourage participation
- Pray for your time in God's word.
- Read the passage.
- Work through the questions.
- Use the questions as a starting point for further discussion. I.E. It's okay to pursue other questions that arise relevant to the passage.
- Keep in mind the Big Idea (**Overview**) for each study. This will help to keep your study going in the right direction. The **Teaching Goals and Outcomes** are more detailed statements to help teach the big idea.
- The **Teaching aids** are essential in your own preparation. The **Tough Bits & Notes** will help you to understand difficult passages. The **X References & Correlations & Big Picture Perspective** will help you to teach this passage in the bigger picture of the Bible. Don't limit your preparation these notes.
- Make time to pray at the end. Encourage your group to keep their Bibles open and to pray from the scriptures.

Tips on leading bible study groups with young people

- Cater for different learners. Some people will be better at each of the 3 types of questions than others. Some may be quick with the observation, some may be quicker with the interpretation etc. Therefore allow for this when leading. Also make use of different learning styles: diagrams, pictures, summaries, physical illustrations to remember key ideas, writing answers, memory games, memory verses,
- Don't be silent as a leader. As well as rephrasing the written questions, use the following 3 types of questions often:
 - **General Qs:** Are there any terms you don't understand? What is the context?
 - **Probing Qs:** Why do you say that? Where do you see that in the text? Can you say that in other words? What do others think about that?
 - **Big Picture Qs:** *What does this remind you of? How does this fit into the big picture of the Bible? What might this have meant for the original audience?*
- Prior Prayer Preparation Prevents Poor Performance. Therefore... prayerfully prepare!!!



Introduction to Hebrews

Big Idea and Overview of Hebrews

The big idea and overall theme of the letter to the Hebrews can be summarised with these words: "Jesus is Simply the Best".

Hebrews is a letter written to a group of first Century Christians from a Jewish cultural background. Having heard and responded to the truth of the gospel these Christians through experiencing persecuting where being tempted to return to their old religious practices.

The writer of Hebrews urges and encourages them to reject the temptation to revert to religiosity but instead encourages them to hold onto Jesus as he is the only way to have salvation. The writer argues that the old ways are mere shadows of which Christ is the substance and fulfilment. Why would you go back when Jesus is SIMPLY THE BEST.

The writer of Hebrews argues his point by making a number of comparisons between Jesus and the Old Testament which can be summarised as follows:

- In the Old Testament...
 1. God spoke by the prophets
 2. The law was given to the people through Moses
 3. Relationship with God was possible through the sacrificial system
- In the New Testament...
 1. God has spoken by Jesus
 2. Salvation has come through Jesus
 3. Relationship with God is made possible through Jesus

Historical Context of the Book

Genre of writing

Hebrews is a letter from an individual to a group of people.

Author and date of writing

Little is known with certainty about the author of Hebrews. Of the authors suggested the three most worthy of mention are Paul, Apollos and Barnabas. We can say that the author was well acquainted with the Jewish religious system, that he knew his readers well and that Timothy was well known by both author and recipients. The letter to the Hebrews is generally thought to have been written around AD68.

The Recipients

From the book it is possible to conclude that the recipients of the letter are a single congregation of Jewish (Hebrew) Christians living somewhere in the Roman world (Hebrews 5:11-12, 6:9-10, 13:23-24). These Christians it seems were experiencing trials (Hebrews 10:32-34) of some sort probably at the hands of non-Christian Jews. The letter is intended to encourage them to persevere in their faith and not be tempted to back slide into observance of the Old Testament law as the basis of their salvation (Hebrews 10:32-36).



Year 8 Term 1 Study 1 - Overview - Hebrews 1 -4 Jesus Simply the Best

Youth Study

Overview

The first four chapters of Hebrews introduce us to Jesus who is seen to be SIMPLY THE BEST. He is better than the prophets, better than the angels, better than Moses and better than the Old Testament temple rituals. Because Jesus is simply the best he is the way in which we can be in relationship with God.

Opener

In your groups fill out the following questionnaire:

1. Who is the best in the group at cartwheels?
2. Who has the longest hair in the group?
3. Who has the coolest shoes on today?
4. Who had the best holiday?
5. Who can tell the best joke?
6. Who can say the alphabet backwards?
7. Who has the best looking scar in your group?
8. Who can do the best party trick in your group?

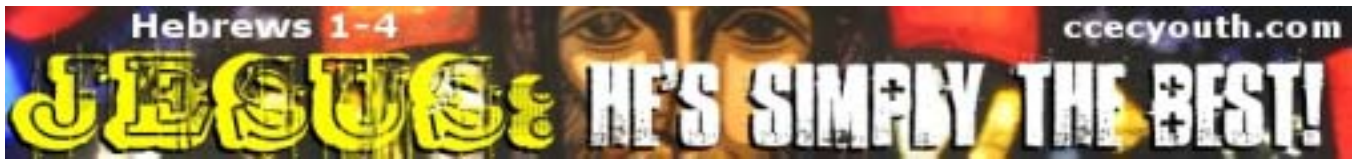
Read Hebrews 1-4 - Overview

While reading as a group stop every couple of paragraphs and ask the following questions:

- O. What are some of the themes in the passages?
- O. What are some of the tough things outlined in the passages?
- O. What are some of the wow moments in the passages.

Prayer and Thanksgiving

- Thank God for everyone in the group having returned safely from holidays;
- Thank God that we could be together having fun and enjoying each others company;
- Thank God for what we could read in the bible this morning about Jesus being simply the best.
- Ask God to help us this term as we learn more about Jesus from the book of Hebrews.



[trek] introduction

[trek] is a daily tour guide to help you journey into the bible. It's aims are to:

- t** - train you to live God's way
- r** - remind you God is the one who saved you, through Jesus
- e** - encourage you to tell others about Jesus
- k** - know the truth so you can't be tricked by lies

[trek] is all about journeying into the bible because it is only in the bible that God speaks to us clearly and completely. When we read the bible, we are hearing what God has to say to us today. That is a seriously special thing! So get into it.

Reflections or questions I have...

[trek] instructions

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- 1) Ask God to help you understand this part of the bible.
- 2) Read the part of the bible for that day.
- 3) As you think about the passage, answer the questions. (Writing may help)
- 4) Thank God & ask him to help you obey what this passage says.
- 5) Put what you've learnt into practice in your life.

NOTE: Much more can be said about each passage... you may use the "reflections or questions I have..." box for further thought.

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 2 - Hebrews Chapter 1:1-4 - Jesus Greater than the Prophets

This term is going to be a real treat as we get to know Jesus better through Hebrews Chapters 1-4. One of the things that you see in Hebrews is how good Jesus is. If you think Moses is good... check out Jesus... if you think Angels are pretty cool... check out Jesus... he's the best!!

[trek day 1] How God has spoken in the past [Heb 1:1-4]

The way we get to know someone is by talking with them in order to find out about them. **GOD** has actually spoken to us so that we can **KNOW** him.

Read Hebrews 1:1
 >How has God spoken to people in the past?
 >List Old Testament Bible stories you know of where God spoke to people...

Thank God for revealing himself in many and varied ways so we might know him.

[trek day 2] How God speaks today [Heb 1:1-4]

While God has revealed himself to many people in many and various ways through time, He intends us to have a complete understanding of who he is through his Son Jesus.

Read Hebrews 1:2
 >What is the way that God speaks to people today?
 >How can we hear Jesus speak?

Thank God for the Bible through which we hear him speak.

[trek day 3] What Jesus is like [Heb 1:1-4]

Read Hebrews 1:2b-3a
 >What 5 things do we learn about God's Son?

- 1>
- 2>
- 3>
- 4>
- 5>

>What do these things show us about Jesus and who he is?

[trek day 4] What Jesus does [Heb 1:1-4]

Read Hebrews 1:3a
 >What does Jesus do for people? [see 2 Corinthians 5:21]

>Have you accepted Jesus' offer of salvation?

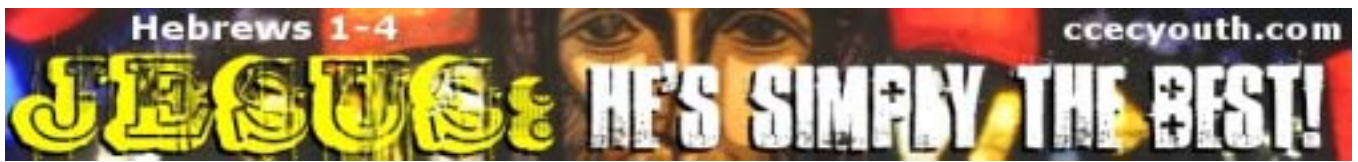
[trek day 5] Jesus' rightful place [Heb 1:1-4]

Read Hebrews 1:3b-4
 >After purifying us of sin where does Jesus sit down?

>What do you think this shows us about him?

Thank God for the death and resurrection of Jesus so that we can be purified of our sins. Ask him that he would help you to be an encouragement to others in your Bible study group this week.





Year 8 Term 1 Study 2 - Hebrews 1:1-4 - Jesus, Greater than the Prophets

Youth Study

Overview

Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God's character and nature, God's revelation in Christ is better than his revelation in the Old Testament through the prophets. God speaks through Jesus so that we might have salvation through him.

Opener

How does God speak to people? What are some ways that people might say that God has spoken to them?

Hebrews 1:1-2a - How God Speaks

O. How do these verse outline how God has spoken to people:

- a) In the past? What ways can you think of from the bible?
- b) In the "last days"?

I. What does this passage tell us about when are the "last days"?

A. As people living in the "last days" how should we expect God to speak to us?

A. How can we hear Jesus speak to us today?

Hebrews 1:2b-3a - Who God's Son Is

O. What 5 things do we learn about God's son?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

I. What do each of these things show us about Jesus and who he is?

A. Considering who Jesus is, what should be our response to his words?

Hebrews 1:3b-4 - Jesus Rightful Place

O. What does Jesus do for people?

O. After purifying us of sin where does Jesus sit down?

I. Why is it important where he sits down? What does this show us about him? (see also Philippians 2:6-11)

A. Some people say that Jesus was just a good man or was a prophet of God. What does this passage say about him?

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God that in his goodness he has not left us in the dark about who he is but he has revealed himself to us through his son the Lord Jesus Christ who he also sent to bring us back into relationship with him.



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e - encourage you to tell others about Jesus
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- 5) Put what you've learnt into practice in your life.

NOTE: Much more can be said about each passage... you may use the "reflections or questions I have..." box for further thought.

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 3 - Hebrews Chapter 1:4-14 - Jesus, Greater than the Angels and all other Created Things

As God's son, and as indeed God himself, Jesus is unique and is superior to the angels and all other created things.

■ [trek day 1] Jesus' name [Heb 1:4-14]

Read Hebrews 1:4-9
 > Not only is God's, Son's name superior to the name of the angels, what else does verse 4 say about Jesus in comparison to the angels?
 > What is the name that Jesus has inherited? (see verse 8 and 9)

Ask God that this week as you read the Bible you would see clearly Jesus for who he is.

■ [trek day 2] Jesus' relationship with God [Heb 1:4-14]

Read Hebrews 1:4-14
 > What does this passage show us about Jesus relationship with God?
 > As God himself, how should we respond to Jesus?

Pray from the passage + **Pray** for the **Vinks** in Tanzania. Ask God that Jono and Amy would be able to continue to train people to tell others about Jesus.

■ [trek day 3] Jesus vs. the angels [Heb 1:4-14]

Read Hebrews 1:4-14
 > What does this passage show us about the role of angels?
Today many people are very concerned about the spiritual world. The bible talks about the spiritual world as being a real thing, of which angels are a part.
 >In view of this passage and what it shows us about Jesus, which should we focus on, angels and the spiritual world or Jesus? Why?

■ [trek day 4] Jesus vs. the world [Heb 1:4-14]

Read Hebrews 1:8-14
 >In what ways is Jesus different from the rest of the world?

>In our world of ever advancing technology where nothing is made to last and even the latest of inventions is superseded, what does this passage show us about Jesus place in the world from the very beginning of creation till its very end?

Ask God that he would help you to see that this world is passing away and that only things done in Christ will last forever.

■ [trek day 5] Jesus and us [Heb 1:4-14]

Read Hebrews 1:4:-14 and 1Peter 3:18
 >What has Jesus done that we couldn't do?
 >How important is understanding who Jesus is and what he has done for us?

Thank God that we have been brought back to Him through the death of Jesus the righteous one when we were unrighteous. Ask God that He'd help you to understand how great Jesus is.





Year 8 Term 1 Study 3 - Hebrews 1:4-14 - Jesus, Greater than the Angels and all other Created Things

Youth Study

Overview

As God's son, and as indeed God himself, Jesus is unique and is superior to the angels and all other create things.

Opener

What is something that is totally unique about you?

Hebrews 1:4-14 - Jesus superior to the angels

O. I. For each of the following points think about how Jesus is different from the angels and what this shows about him.

Points	Contrast shown	What this shows about Jesus
a) Their names		
b) Relationship to God		
c) Place of worship		
d) Their roles		

A. Today many people are very concerned about the spiritual world. The bible talks about the spiritual world as being a real thing of which angels are a part. In view of this passage and what it shows us about Jesus, which should we focus on, angels and the spiritual world or Jesus? Why?

Hebrews 1:8-14 - Jesus Superior to the created world

O. I. For each of the following points think about how Jesus is different from creation and what this shows about him.

Points	Contrast shown	What this shows about Jesus
a) Attitude to righteousness		
b) Affirmation by God		
c) Perishability		

A. In our world of ever advancing technology where nothing is made to last and even the latest of inventions is superseded, what does this passage show us about Jesus place in the world from the very beginning of creation till its very end?

A. How important is understanding who Jesus is and what he has done for us?

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God for Jesus that although he is more powerful and has more authority then anyone or anything else he is still our friend through whom we can have relationship with God.

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Reflections or questions I have...

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 4 - Hebrews Chapter 2:1-10 - Jesus the Great Messenger and Saviour

The message of Christ brings salvation to people by bringing us back into relationship with God.

[trek day 1] Jesus message vs the angels message [Heb 2:1-10]

Read Hebrews 2:1-3

- > How is Jesus message different to the message of the angels?
- > What might cause you to drift way from Christ? What advice is given here? (v1).

Pray that you would pay attention to Jesus message and not drift away from salvation.

[trek day 2] Old news vs new news [Heb 2:1-10]

Read Hebrews 2:1-4

- > What was the message spoken by angels? (Deut 33:2, Acts 7:53)
- > How did Jesus confirm the message he spoke to people?
- > What does this show us about the purpose of the miracles in the bible?

[trek day 3] The problem with the Pslam [Heb 2:1-10]

Read Hebrews 2:5-8a Psalm 8

- > What does Psalm 8 show us about mans role and place in the universe?
- > Is this what we see in our world? Why/why not? (Gen 3:1-24, Rom 8:20-23)

[trek day 4] Jesus the solution [Heb 2:1-10]

Read Hebrews 2:8b-9

- > As humans have failed to rule the world, who then is able to rule?
- > How is it that Jesus is able to rule the world in our place? (v9, Phil 2:5-11)

Praise God that Jesus was able to take the punishment that we deserved and is the rightful ruler of the world.

[trek day 5] Jesus our ruler and saviour [Heb 2:1-10]

Read Hebrews 2:9-10

- >Not only is Jesus the rightful ruler of the world, what has he achieved for us?
- >How important is understanding who Jesus is and what he has done for us?

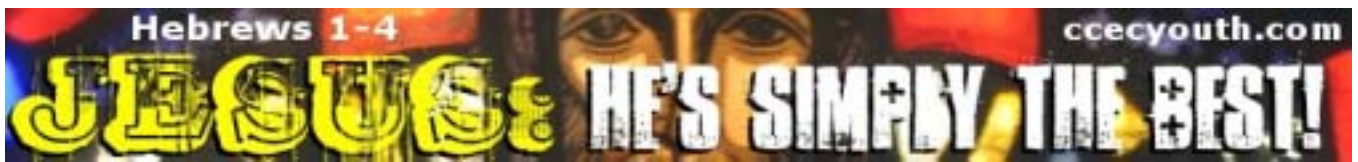
Thank God that we have been brought back to Him through the death of Jesus the righteous one when we were unrighteous. Ask God that He'd help you to understand how great Jesus is.

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Year 8 Term 1 Study 4 - Hebrew 2:1-9 - Jesus, the Great Messenger and Restorer

Youth Study

Overview

The message of Christ brings salvation to people by bringing us back into relationship with God.

Opener

When have you needed help to solve a problem that you have had?

Hebrews 2:1-4 - Jesus message superior to the message of the angels

O. How is Jesus' message different from the message of the angels?

I. Why is the message of Jesus more important to heed than the message brought by angels?

A. What might cause you to "drift away" from Christ? What advice is given here?

Psalm 8 & Hebrews 2:5-8a - The problem with the Psalm

O. What does Psalm 8 tell us about Man's place and role in the universe?

I. Is this what we see in our world? Why/ why not? (see also Genesis 3:1-24 & Romans 8:20-23)

Hebrews 2:8b-10 - Jesus the answer to the problem

O. It is evident that Man is not the supreme ruler of the world and everything in it. Who then does the writer of Hebrews find to be the true ruler? (v9)

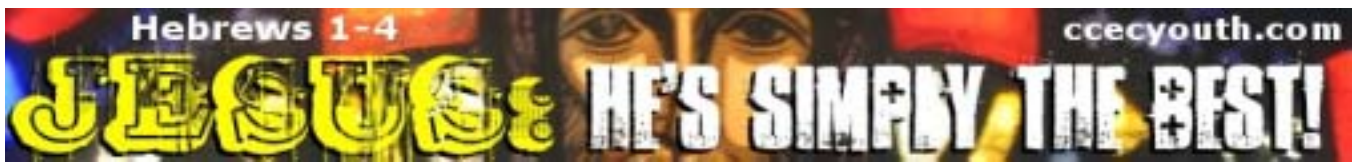
I. How is it that Jesus can rule the world in our place? (v9) (see also Philippians 2:5-11)

A. When Jesus died on the cross he took the punishment from God that we deserved. Therefore, what does he achieve for us? (v10)

A. How does this help you live differently?

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God that he didn't leave us cut off from him but through Jesus he bought salvation that we might live in relationship with God.



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Reflections or questions I have...

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 5 - Hebrews Chapter 2:10-18 - Jesus (Greatly Dies) for his Brothers

Do you have a big family with many siblings or a small family made up of just you and one or two parents? Through Jesus we are part of a world wide family. Jesus has bought us into his family by his death. In times of temptation our brother Jesus is there to help us.

■ [trek day 1] Jesus [Heb 2:10-18]

Read Hebrews 2:10-18

> What do you learn about Jesus in this passage?

> What questions does this passage raise for you? Write them down.

Pray that God would be with you this week as you seek to read his word. **Pray** also for the Vinks in Tanzania.

■ [trek day 2] Part of God's Family [Heb 2:10-18]

Read Hebrews 2:10-13

> What do we learn about being a part of God's family?

> How do you think you ought to live as a brother of Jesus?

Thank and Praise God that Jesus is not ashamed to call you his brother [or sister!]

■ [trek day 3] The Author of Salvation [Heb 2:10-18]

An author is someone who writes something... JK Rowling is the author of the *Harry Potter* series of books, CS Lewis wrote the *Narnia*, and George Lucas wrote the *Star Wars* movies. In today's passage we are going to see Jesus as the author of salvation.

Read Hebrews 2:10-13

What do you think it means for Jesus to be "the author of salvation" [v10]?

■ [trek day 4] Jesus' atoning death [Heb 2:10-18]

Read Hebrews 2:14-18

> What 3 reasons are given for Jesus' death in vv14-17?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Ask God that he would help you to trust in Jesus' death. Thank him that Jesus has tasted death for you.

■ [trek day 5] Jesus the man [Heb 2:10-18]

Why did Jesus come down as a man? Why didn't he come down as a dolphin or an echidna or a palm tree?? Did he really have to be a man? And if so was the only way for him to bring us into God's family by death?

Read Hebrews 2:14-18

> Why did Jesus have to be a man?

> How can the man Jesus help us in our struggles? [v18]

> **For the adventurous:** Why did Jesus have to die? [Rom 6:23 might help]

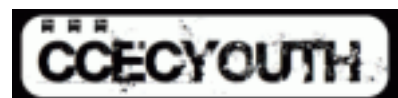
Thank God for the opportunity this week to read the Bible. Ask God that Operation 24/7 would be an encouraging time this Sunday.

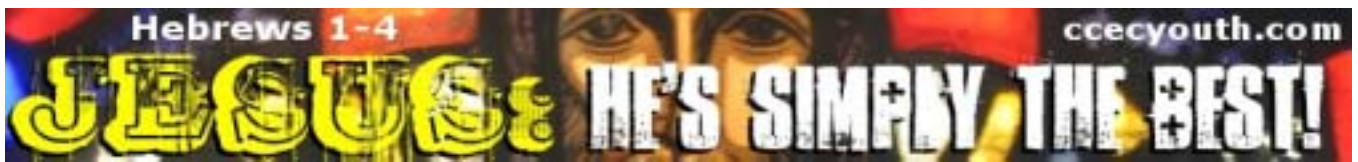
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Year 8 Term 1 Study 5 - Hebrews 2:10-18 - Jesus, (Greatly) Dies for His Brothers

Youth Study

Overview

Jesus is the author of our salvation. He has called us into his family by his death. In times of temptation our brother Jesus is there to help us.

Opener

What is the best thing about being part of your family?

Hebrews 2:10-13 - Jesus calls us into God's family

O. What does verse 10 teach us about God?

I. Who do you think the author of salvation is in v10?

I. We know from the rest of Hebrews [see 1:3] that Jesus is already perfect. Therefore what do you think it means that through suffering he became perfect?

A. All of us have a family of some sort. Verse 11 says that as Christians we are part of a much bigger family... God's family! What do you think a member of God's family should look like?

A. Verse 12 speaks about how Jesus is not ashamed to call us his brothers. How do you find comfort in our crazy world knowing that Jesus is on your side?

Hebrews 2:14-18 - Jesus came as a man to die

O. What are 3 reasons for Jesus' death given in vv14-17?

I. Why was it necessary for Jesus to become a man?

A. How can we find comfort in knowing that Jesus was a person just like us? [Verse 18 might help]

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God that through Jesus you have entry into his family and that Jesus our brother loves us and cares for us in times of weakness and temptation.

[trek] introduction

[trek] is a daily tour guide to help you journey into the bible. It's aims are to:

- t** - train you to live God's way
- r** - remind you God is the one who saved you, through Jesus
- e** - encourage you to tell others about Jesus
- k** - know the truth so you can't be tricked by lies

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Reflections or questions I have...

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NOTE: Much more can be said about each passage... you may use the "reflections or questions I have..." box for further thought.

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 6 - Hebrews Chapter 3:1-6 - Jesus Greater than Moses

The match of the century... Jesus verse Moses.... In this passage we are given a comparison between Jesus and Moses through which we find that Jesus is superior to all things and all people in that he has won salvation for those who believe.

■ [trek day 1] Holy through him [Heb 3:1-6]

Read Hebrews 3:1
 > How does the writer of Hebrews refer to Christians reading this letter?
 > On what basis can Christians be considered "holy" in God's sight? [Heb 2:17]

Thank God for our salvation through Christ.

■ [trek day 2] Jesus vs Moses [Heb 3:1-6]

Read Hebrews 3:2-6
 > Why is Jesus greater than Moses?
 > For Christians from a Jewish background [where there is such an emphasis on the role of Moses], the news that Jesus is even superior to Moses would have been very challenging. For us, how does what we have learnt about Jesus superiority challenge the way we look at the world around us?

■ [trek day 3] Living for Jesus [Heb 3:1-6]

Read Hebrews 3:1-6
 > What must Christians do to share the future that Christ has won for them?
 > How does this affect you?

Pray for the Kings [in France] and ask God that he would help them to keep living for Jesus.

■ [trek day 4] Can Christians fall away? [Heb 3:1-6]

Read Hebrews 3:1-6
 > Can Christians fall away?
 > What do these passages show us about this question?
 - Mark 4:1-9, 13-20

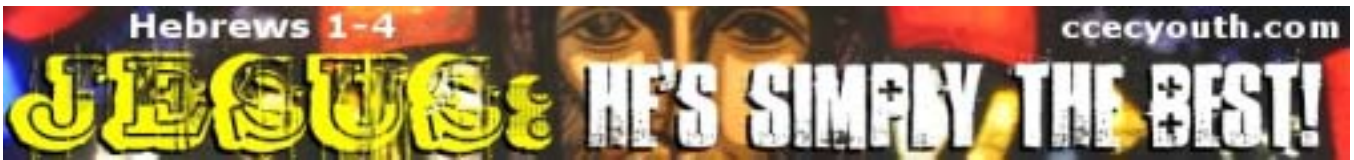
- 2 Corinthians 13:5
- 2 Peter 1:5-11

Ask God that he would help you keep trusting in Jesus.

■ [trek day 5] Assurance [Heb 3:1-6]

Read Hebrews 3:1-6
 > We can be sure of our salvation. What do these passages show us about this?
 - Philippians 1:6
 - John 6:37
 - Romans 8:29-39
 - Ephesians 1:13-14

Thank God for the opportunity this week to read the Bible. Ask God that Operation 24/7 would be an encouraging time this Sunday.



Year 8 Term 1 Study 6 - Hebrews 3:1-6 - Jesus, Greater than Moses

Youth Study

Overview

Jesus is superior to all things and all people in that he has won salvation for those who believe.

Opener

Is there anyone you can fully trust? Who? Why?

Hebrews 3:1 - Holy through him

O. How does the writer of Hebrews refer to Christians reading this letter?

I. On what basis can Christians be considered "holy" in God's sight? (see Heb 2:17)

A. In looking forward to heaven, how should Christians live their lives? (3:1)

Hebrews 3:2-6 - Jesus superior to Moses

I. What does this passage tell us about Jesus and Moses? (*Put answers in table*)

Jesus	Moses

A. For Christians from a Jewish background (where there is such an emphasis on the role of Moses), the news that Jesus is even superior to Moses would have been very challenging. For us, how does what we have learnt about Jesus superiority challenge the way we look at the world around us?

Hebrews 3:1-6 - Assurance of those who believe in Christ

O. How are Christians described in verse 6?

I. We know that our sins are fully forgiven through Jesus dying on the cross to suffer the punishment that we deserved. What does 3:6 say about how we can have assurance of this salvation? (see also 3:1)

A. Do you trust Jesus for you salvation?

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God that we have the hope of eternal life through Jesus. Ask God to help you hold onto this hope in good and bad times.

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Reflections or questions I have...

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 7 - Hebrews Chapter 3:7-19 - The Great Danger of Rejecting Jesus

There is an old say "history repeating". In this passage we are given an overview of some of Israel's history that we do not make the same mistakes. Instead of rejecting Jesus as Israel did we should learn from Israel's history by holding firm to the confidence we have in our salvation through Jesus.

■ [trek day 1] Hard hearted Israel [Hebrews 3:7-19]

Read Numbers 13:26-14:30 and Hebrews 3:7-11

>How did the Israelites behave towards God in the desert?

>What does this passage show us about what it means to have a sinful unbelieving heart?

Ask God that he will forgive you of your rebellion against him and ask him that he will soften your heart to his message.

■ [trek day 2] God's rest [Hebrews 3:7-19]

Read Hebrews 3:7-11

> What did it mean for the OT Israelites to enter God's rest?

> Are we looking forward to inheriting a portion of modern day Canaan as promised by God?

> What rest are we looking forward to?

Thank God for the hope of heaven that we have to look forward to.

■ [trek day 3] A warning [Hebrews 3:7-19]

Read Hebrews 3:7-15

> From the lesson of the Israelites what are Christians warned not to do v 12?

> What are we called to do v 13 and v14?

> What things can you do to encourage other Christians to hold on to the end?

Pray that God would keep you in your Christian walk throughout your life that you might have eternal life with him.

■ [trek day 4] Today [Hebrews 3:7-19]

Read Hebrews 3:7-15 and Psalm 95

>When are we called to submit to God's will for our lives v 7, v 13?

>As it is always today, that fact that we are called to submit to God's will today, what does this show us about when we are to choose to obey God?

Pray that God will help you live for him each and every day.

■ [trek day 5] Can Christians fall away [Hebrews 3:7-19]

Read Hebrews 3:7-19 & 1 John 5:13

> If a true Christian can not fall away, why does the author give so many strong warnings and such sober advice against this danger?

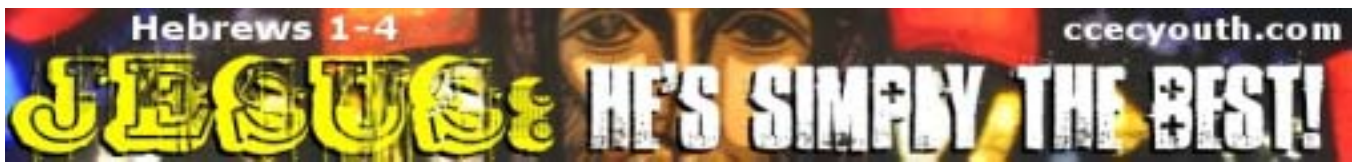
Pray that God would help you persevere in your Christian life.

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- 5) Put what you've learnt into practice in your life.

NOTE: Much more can be said about each passage... you may use the "reflections or questions I have..." box for further thought.



Year 8 Term 1 Study 7 - Hebrews 3:7-19 - The Great Danger of Rejecting Jesus

Youth Study

Overview

We should learn from Israel's history by holding firm to the confidence we have in our salvation through Jesus.

Opener

Why do you think that it is important to know about the past? What lessons can we learn from history or past events? Can you think of any?

Hebrews 3:7-12 & Numbers 13:26-14:30 - Learning from Israel's history

O. Draw a picture that shows how the Israelites behaved towards God.

I. What lessons does Numbers give us about godly living? What did it mean for the Old Testament Israelites to enter God's rest?

I. How does this passage help us understand what it means to have a 'sinful unbelieving heart'?

A. How are we warned to be different from the Israelites?

Hebrews 3:7-19 - Holding Firm

I. If someone has come to hallow in Christ, what evidence will their lives reveal? [v14]

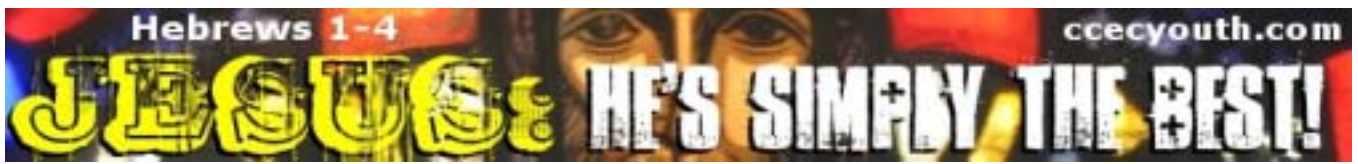
I. If the true Christian cannot fall away, why does this author give so many strong warnings and such sober advice against this danger?

A. There is a need for Christians to act "today" when God has spoken. How does this warning apply to you?

A. Draw a picture that shows how you ought to respond to God.

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God that through Jesus you have the hope of one day entering God's eternal rest. Ask God to help you to not have a sinful unbelieving heart but that you would hold firmly to the hope you have in Jesus.



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NOTE: Much more can be said about each passage... you may use the "reflections or questions I have..." box for further thought.

Year 8 Term 1 TREK Week 8 - Hebrews Chapter 4:1-13 - The Great Hope of Life in Jesus

This chapter can seem confusing but it reveals again one of the key themes of the letter, ie that Christ has come as the substance that fulfils all that in the O.T. were mere shadows (10:10. He is the true man (2:9), the true high priest (2:17); 4:14,15), the true apostle and mediator (3:1; chap 8), the true sacrifice for sins (10:1) and here in this chapter He brings the true rest promised by God to His people.

■ [trek day 1] God's Rest [Heb 4:1-13]

In the last chapter we saw that in the O.T. the Israelites who were rescued out of Egypt never entered God's rest because of their unbelief. "They shall never enter my rest"! (11)

Read Hebrews 4:1-13

>What do you think God's rest is?

- a) The promised land
- b) Sunday off
- c) Heaven
- d) God's presence
- e)other

> What hints are given that the "rest of God" is not merely a thing of the past?

Thank God for the promise of rest with him in heaven.

■ [trek day 2] Entering God's Rest [Heb 4:1-13]

While God has revealed himself to many people in many and various ways through time, He intends us to have a complete understanding of who he is through his Son Jesus.

Read Hebrews 4:1-13 and Deut 1:19-40

> Why were the Israelites not about to enter into the promised land on their first attempt (Heb 4:2-3 and Deut 1:26-28)?

> How can we enter Gods rest (Heb 4:2-3 and Rom 5:1, 10:17)?

Thank God for the salvation we have through Christ as we learn about through God's word to us.

■ [trek day 3] The warning [Heb 4:1-13]

Read Hebrews 4:1-13

> What warning or encouragement does the writer set before us here?

> What things could cause you to fall short of the promise of God's rest (v1) or to be kept out of God's rest because of disobedience (v6)?

Pray that God would keep you trusting in Jesus for your salvation throughout your life.

■ [trek day 4] God's word [Heb 4:1-13]

Read Hebrews 4:1-13 (particularly 12-13)

> Verse 12-14 about the word might seem like a sudden change of subject but this is not so. How does God's word relate to what we learn about faith and belief in verse 1-11? (Romans 10:17, John 1:1-9)

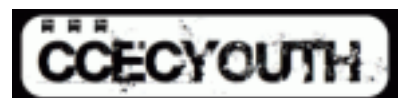
Thank God that by trusting and believing that Jesus has paid the penalty for our sin we can have assurance of forgiveness and certainly of eternal life.

■ [trek day 5] Our rest [Heb 4:-1-13]

Read Hebrews 4:1-13 and Revelation 21:1-5

> What do we learn about heaven in these passages?

Thank God for the hope of heaven that we have to look forward to.





Year 8 Term 1 Study 8 - Hebrews 4:1-13 - The Great Hope of Life in Jesus

Youth Study

Overview

Jesus brings the hope of true rest promised by God to those who trust in him for their salvation.

Opener

What is something that you have great hopes for? Your coming birthday? Upcoming holiday? Your sporting team winning the premiership?

Hebrews 4:1-11 - God's rest

In the last chapter we saw that in the O.T. the Israelites who were rescued out of Egypt never entered God's rest because of their unbelief. "They shall never enter my rest!" (11)

I. What do you think God's rest is?

- a) The promised land
- b) A week of holidays
- c) Heaven
- d) God's presence
- e) other

I. What hints are given that the "rest of God" is not merely a thing of the past nor a rest experienced in this world alone?

A. How can we enter God's rest (Heb 4:2-3 and Rom 5:1, 10:17)?

Hebrews 4:12-13 - How to enter God's rest

O. What warning or encouragement does the writer set before us here?

I. Is entering God's rest based on whether or not you obey God? Why? Why not?

A. What things could cause you to fall short of the promise of God's rest (v1) or to be kept out of God's rest because of disobedience (v6)?

Read Revelation 21:1-5 - The ultimate rest

I. What do we learn about heaven in these passages? What sort of a place is it? What is so good about it?

A. Do you have confidence that you will one-day enter into eternal rest with God? If so give thanks and joyfully forward to this? If not maybe think again of the offer of salvation held out again in Jesus' death and resurrection.

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God for the promise of eternal rest with him. Pray that God would help you to live in accordance with his plans and purposes so that your life our show that you have trusted in Jesus for your salvation