

STUDYING THE BOOK OF HEBREWS
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 4 - Jesus Greater Than Moses - Hebrews 3:1-6

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

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HEB 3:1 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. [2] He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. [3] Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. [4] For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. [5] Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, testifying to what would be said in the future. [6] But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 4 - Jesus Greater Than Moses - Hebrews 3:1-6

41. How did the author of Hebrews address those reading his letter? (3:1)
42. What blessing is promised to those who know Christ? (3:1)
43. What command is given to those who want to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ? (3:1)
44. Who is Jesus? (3:1-2)
45. How is Jesus like Moses? (3:2)
46. In what ways are Moses and Jesus similar? (3:2, 5-6)
47. Why is Jesus worthy of more honor than Moses? (3:3-6)
48. What has Jesus done as God? (3:4)
49. How are the people of God or the family of God described in this passage? (3:4-6)
50. How do we demonstrate that we are members of God's household? (3:6)
51. What qualities are necessary for us to be faithful children of God? (3:6)

Lesson 5 - Warning Against Unbelief - Hebrews 3:7-19

HEB 3:7 So, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you hear his voice,

HEB 3:8 do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion,
during the time of testing in the desert,

HEB 3:9 where your fathers tested and tried me
and for forty years saw what I did.

HEB 3:10 That is why I was angry with that generation,
and I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray,
and they have not known my ways.'

HEB 3:11 So I declared on oath in my anger,
'They shall never enter my rest.' "

HEB 3:12 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. [13] But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. [14] We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first. [15] As has just been said:

"Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion."

HEB 3:16 Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? [17] And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the desert? [18] And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? [19] So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 5 - Warning Against Unbelief - Hebrews 3:7-19

52. Who is identified as the author of Psalm 95:7-11? (3:7)

53. What warning (first issued by the psalmist) is repeated here by the author of Hebrews? (3:7-8)

54. How is Israel's period of wandering in the wilderness described in this passage? (3:8)
55. Why was God angry with the generation of Israelites who came out of Egyptian exile? (3:9)
56. How did the Spirit of God describe the Israelites of the Exodus? (3:10)
57. What were the consequences of the Israelites' stubborn disobedience? (3:11)
58. In light of the disobedience of the Israelites of the Exodus, what command was given to the Jewish Christians of the first century? (3:12)
59. How are those described who turn away from the living God? (3:12)
60. What is the connection between sin and unbelief? (3:12-13)
61. How might a person show that he or she has "come to share in Christ"? (3:14)
62. How long did the disobedient Israelites wander in the wilderness? (3:17)
63. What happened to the generation of Israelites who rebelled against God in the wilderness? (3:17-18)
64. What can we do to avoid hardening our hearts toward God?