

Not One To Gloss Over

A Study of Hebrews - (Hebrews 10:26-31)

Pastor Bob Johnson, March 8th, 2020

I. Two Responses & Two Results

1. R _____ Christ Heb. 10:19-25
2. R _____ Christ Heb. 10:26-31
 - We reject ...
 - We will choose ...
 - We will face ...

II. The Perceived Problems with the text:

The reality of God's judgment:

- it is un_____ and un_____
- it conflicts with _____
- it just feels _____

III. The Truths about the Text:

(2 Peter 3:8-10, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 3:16-21, Luke 16:19-31)
(Matthew 5:22-30; 8:5-13; 10:27-28; 13:36-50; 22:1-4; 25:41-46)

- A God w/o justice and judgment is ...
- Jesus spoke more about ...
- Without judgment, Jesus was ...

IV. Two Summary Truths:

1. Our view of hell is based on ...
2. If the text is true, our friends and family need ...
the g_____ not just g_____.

This Week's Discussion Guide:

Welcome to our ninth week of this 12 week study of Hebrews 5-11. Our last week of small groups for this season will be the last week in March.

At GPC, we are big on small groups :). May our church family grow warmer together as we meet in small groups to develop friendships and encourage each other as we learn to apply God's truths to our everyday lives.

Getting Started:

Last Sunday morning, Bob taught on Hebrews 10:26-31 which dealt with pending judgment for those who reject Jesus rather than receive Him.

Talking about hell can be quite an interesting conversation. Growing up, what has been your experience around the topic and teachings of hell and the afterlife?

A natural response to last Sunday's message is to think about those who don't know Jesus. The story of your own spiritual journey is one of the most powerful tools you have to share your faith.

If someone were to ask you what difference being a follower of Jesus has made in your life, what would you say?

Often what gets in the way of us speaking up about our faith in Jesus is fear. This can result in the false belief that we have to know everything and if we don't explain everything clearly, we will do more harm than good. Which of these common fears do you relate to most when thinking about sharing your faith?
Circle all that apply and then discuss.

fear of rejection	fear of what others will think of you
losing a friendship	rudely interrupting somebody's life
fear of offending	being seen as arrogant
feeling inadequate	your own weaknesses, inconsistencies
embarrassment over what you don't know	
personal doubt	
other:	

Quick Review:

Let's re-read Hebrews 10:26-31. Looking back at your notes from last Sunday's teaching on this passage, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, confused you, encouraged you, or stretched your thinking?

1. This week we heard about the reality of separation from God for eternity. In light of the urgency created by this truth, read through the parable of the sower in Matthew 13:1-9, Matthew 13:18-23 and also read 1 Corinthians 3:7.

Discuss God's role and our responsibility when it comes to the salvation of others.

How might we navigate the balance of living with a sense of urgency about eternity and separation and avoid the extremes of either being a 'street corner sign holder' or apathetic silent believer?

2. Toward the end of last Sunday's message, Bob spoke about being God's people in the lives of our friends and family.

This involves influencing them with both our actions and our words.

How does Matthew 5:16 and 1 Peter 3:15-16 help us understand what this looks like in our own lives?

3. For most of us, learning about hell increases our desire to have a spiritual impact on our family and friends.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13. This passage gives us a great picture of what a spiritually influential relationship can look like.

What do you think Paul meant by 'sharing the gospel'?

What do you think he meant by sharing his life?

Why does it work best to share the gospel and your life?

What are some of the dangers of thinking there is only one way to influence others?

4. Often after hearing a message like this, we can feel a need to go and save the world. It is important for us to remember that God has called us to be 'fishers' of men ... and not 'harpooners' of men. What is the difference?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:20 and Acts 16:11-15.

In one of Paul's missionary journeys, he and his team went to Philippi. One of the people they shared with was a woman named Lydia. After hearing what Paul shared, in v14, God opened her heart to pay attention to what was said.

Paul's job was to be an ambassador, not a 'heart opener'. What is the difference?

Not all hearts are open to hear the gospel. What are some reasons for one to have a closed heart? How can we show love for them while waiting for their hearts to open up a bit?

In sharing with others, how can we know if we are cross the line and trying to do more than we ought to?

Wrapping Up:

Looking back on the message from Sunday and from our discussion, what is one truth that stands out to you that you can prayerfully ask God to help apply to your life somehow?

Are there one or two people in your circle of influence that you would like to have a more significant impact on in regards to their faith?

What are some next steps in being an ambassador for Christ in their lives?

Before we wrap up our sharing time, let's prayer for one another!

What are some specific requests we have that we can pray for?