

Care Group Study Questions

The Low Road to Greatness

Hebrews 1 & 2

History (Making It Personal)

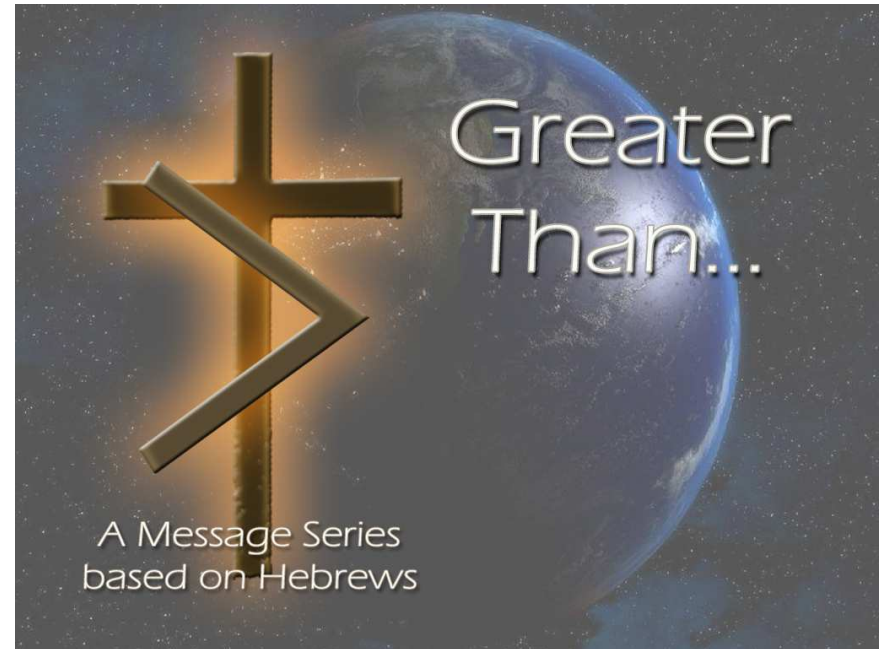
1. Talk about angels. What ideas/concepts have you had about these beings? What are the common perceptions of angels in the public eye?
2. Share your background in the area of eternal security. What have you been taught? How have you viewed the security of the believer? Is it possible in your mind to "lose your salvation?" Why or why not?
3. Have there been times in your spiritual life where you "drifted" from God – where you were cold or hard? What caused these times? How did you respond? How did you find your way back? What would you say to a complacent believer today to stir them to a passionate faith?

Digging Deeper (Looking to the Bible)

4. Read Hebrews 6:4-6 together with John 10:28-30. How do you interpret these two texts?
5. Compare the uses of the word salvation in the following texts: Ephesians 2:8-9; I Corinthians 1:18; & I Peter 1:3-5. Talk about the past, present and future concepts of salvation.
6. The theological terms are justification, sanctification, and glorification. The past, present, and future work of salvation. Do you think it is any of these that are in mind in the book of Hebrews? Why or why not?
7. Read through Hebrews 1:1-4 and take note of the seven descriptors of Jesus – Heir, Creator, Radiance, Image, Sustainer, Redeemer, Exalted One. Which one stands out and is most meaningful to you? What do these names tell us of His authority and power?
8. Now compare Philippians 2:5-8 and talk about the incredible humility it took for Christ to accept this responsibility.
9. Talk now of the arrogance and pride of Satan – what a contrast to the humility of Christ – instead of willingly giving up his position – Lucifer sought to dethrone God. Read Revelation 12:7-9. – Talk about Satan's strategies since – to ruin God's creation. Read Ephesians 6:12, I Peter 5:8 & 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.
10. Finally, read Hebrews 2:1-4 one more time – and talk about the challenge of not slipping away – not drifting – not growing cold. Do other scriptures come to mind?

Taking It Home (Application)

11. Talk for a few minutes about how we might encourage each other to stand firm. Read Hebrews 10:25 and 3:13. What would this practically look like today?
12. Pray for our church family as we study this book together – that God would speak to each of us.
13. Finally, spend some time upholding the RUSH youth conference at the end of the month. We anticipate 1500 youth from around the province. Pray for a powerful move of the Holy Spirit among them and for all the details!



Pastor Mark Burch February 3 & 4 '07

"We shall give this rebellion a thorough trial. We shall permit it to run full course. The universe shall see what a creature, even the greatest can do apart from God. We shall set up an experiment, and permit the universe of creatures to watch it, during this brief interlude between eternity past and eternity future called "time." In it the spirit of independence shall be allowed to expand to the utmost. And the wreck and the ruin which shall result will demonstrate to the universe, and forever, that there is no life, no joy, no peace, apart from a complete dependence upon the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth." (Donald Barnhouse – War in Heaven)

We're starting a new study in the book of Hebrews and it calls us to the reality of the spiritual conflict that takes place in the heavenly realms and in our daily lives. The challenge to stand firm, to not drift, to not shrink back, is woven through the pages of this great book. It is a call to persevere, a call to dependence, and a call to GREAT FAITH! I'm excited and overwhelmed by the study! I believe God has some powerful things to teach us as we take a quick 9-week flight over this text! Dig in deep!

Greater Than...
A new series in the book of Hebrews...

February 3-4, 2007
Pastor Mark Burch

The Grand Story of the Universe....

The Low Road to Greatness
Hebrews 1:1-2:18

Introduction to the Study – Themes we'll be walking through.... J

Controversy:

Certainty:

Written By:

Written To:

Written Because:

A Question of Salvation:

Theme?

Response?

Diving Into the Text – Hebrews 1-2

God Speaks...

Creation

Angels

War

Created to Rule
The "lesser being" crowned with honor!

Attack and Counter-Attack

The Final Triumph – The Son!

THEREFORE: 2:1-4 Don't drift!

"It is the image of God reflected in you that so enrages hell; it is this at which the demons hurl their mightiest weapons." (William Gurnall – quoted by John Eldredge in *Waking the Dead*)

What Are you doing with Jesus?