



Cuyahoga  
Valley Church

# SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 10.6.24  
Hebrews 3 // Joe Valenti

Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip  
Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

## CONNECT (10 MIN)

- ① In the sermon on Sunday, Pastor Joe quoted David Wells as stating, "Worldliness is a system of values in any given age...which makes sin look normal and righteousness seem strange."
- What are some sins that you think our culture today tries to make look "normal?"
  - In what ways does our culture today try to make righteousness seem "strange?"

What is one thing that especially stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday?

## EXPLORE (30 MIN)

**Create Context (5 min):** There is no sermon recap video this week.

### Study & Discussion (25 min)

**Read Hebrews 3 out loud together as a group.**

- ② Pastor Joe said on Sunday, "You don't get a buddy pass into heaven." We must know Christ personally in order to be saved; we must have invited Him to be the leader and forgiver of our lives ourselves. We can't skate by on our parents' faith, our community's faith, or anybody else's.
- Why do you think it can be tempting to rely on the faithfulness of those around us?
  - In your own words, did Pastor Joe say on Sunday was the alternative to "trying to get a buddy pass into heaven?"
- ③ Joe stated on Sunday that "our perseverance in faith doesn't complete the work of the cross; it proves the work of the cross is alive in us." Read Philippians 2:12-13. Based on the sermon, and on this passage from Philippians:
- What does it mean to "work out your salvation with fear and trembling," while also remembering that "it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure?" How do we balance both sides of this coin?
  - We know that our good works don't save us – only Christ alone can do that. With that truth in mind, what does it mean that perseverance in the faith "proves the work of the cross is alive in us?"



- ④ Read Hebrews 3:13. Joe stated on Sunday, “Your consistent, rebellious disobedience without experiencing any conviction or correction is evidence of a heart problem.”
  - Why is it important for us to pray for conviction about our sins, and to seek relationship with those in the church who will correct us when we need it?
- ⑤ Read Hebrews 4:11-16. Based on this passage and on Joe’s sermon:
  - How does God’s Word fit into our battle against the temptation to sin?
  - When we have sinned and we repent, how does Jesus respond to us?
  - Building off of your answers to the two previous questions in this section, what would you say to a friend who confessed a sin to you and then told you, “I’m afraid to ask for God’s forgiveness, because I think He might not forgive me.”?
- ⑥ Read Matthew 7:24-27. Consider the passages in Hebrews that we studied on Sunday and in our discussion in LifeGroup today.
  - Where is God calling you to renewed obedience today?
  - What does it look like for you to “increase in holiness” in your life in this season?
  - Where do you need to be reminded that Jesus has paid the price for your sin, and calls you now to repent and walk with Him?

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Knowing the Bible: Hebrews - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowning-bible-hebrews/>
- TGC Course:Introduction to Hebrews - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/hebrews-introduction/>



## PRAY AND APPLY

This week we are going to use the Prayer Points that Pastor Joe wrote into the Sermon Notes:

### **Perseverance in Faith:**

Ask God to strengthen us to stay faithful to Jesus daily and not to drift away, especially when faced with trials or temptations.

### **Identity in Christ:**

Pray for hearts that find their identity in Jesus alone, not in family ties, religious practices, or traditions. Pray that we would be drawn to genuine faith and not just going through the religious motions.

### **Obedience to God's Word:**

Ask the Lord to reveal areas of disobedience in us and ask that he would give us the courage to confess our sins and walk in faithful obedience.

### **Courage to Confess and Repent:**

Pray for the courage to bring hidden sins into the light and to trust in God's mercy and grace for forgiveness and transformation.

### **Endurance Through Hardship:**

Pray for endurance, for faith during difficult times, and trust that God is working in each of us (especially through these warnings) to help us persevere to the end.

## MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 2:18

“For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.”



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# EQUIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 10.6.24

Please take a moment to share these announcements with your group.

More information on each item can be found by scanning the QR codes.

## CVC YOUNG ADULTS

### **Eat, Sip, and Drive: A Progressive Dinner: October 12, 2024**

CVC Young Adults are hosting Eat, Sip, and Drive on Saturday, October 12 from 2-8 PM. Join our Young Adults for a day of food, fellowship, and fun at this Progressive Dinner. The event begins and ends at Broadview Heights Campus. Register [HERE!](#)



## CHURCH - WIDE

### **Explore CVC Class: October 20, 2024**

Membership moves us from an observer to a participant and from a consumer to a contributor. It is a public affirmation of a commitment to Christ and to a specific local body. To consider membership, your first step is attending Explore CVC.

Explore CVC is our regularly-offered class that helps you explore the foundations of who we are as a church, including our history, what we believe, and our mission. It is also your next step toward membership.



## CVCKIDS

### **Trunk or Treat: October 27, 2024**

You're invited to join us for Trunk or Treat, a fun, family event for our church family and surrounding communities. Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 27 from 4 - 5:30 pm.

If you would like to decorate your vehicle and participate in treat hand outs, please fill out the form [HERE](#) and submit no later than Wednesday, October 23rd.

