



Cuyahoga
Valley Church

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 12.8.24
Hebrews 8 // Rick Duncan

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

CONNECT (10 MIN)

- ① In his sermon on Sunday, Pastor Rick told a story about an old car he and his family used to have, and how it embarrassed his kids to be seen in the car. What is one thing your parents did or had when you were a kid that embarrassed you at the time? As an adult, do you look back on this any differently? Why or why not?

EXPLORE (30 MIN)

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

Study & Discussion (25 min)

Read Hebrews 8 out loud together as a group.

- ② In our last Sermon-Based Study Guide, we discussed the PRIEST acronym that Rick used in his last sermon. In that Study Guide, we asked the question, “Which piece of this acronym especially brings you hope today, and why? Where (in what piece of this acronym) do you need the Lord's help to trust Him today?” Today, we are going to look at the acronym again (see below). However, today let's discuss it from a different angle. Who in your life needs to find hope in the proximity, rest, intercession, eternity, or salvation of Christ? Who can you encourage to trust in the Lord today, with these truths in mind?

- P - Proximity
- R - Rest
- I - Intercession
- E - Eternity
- S - Salvation
- T - Transformation

- ③ Read Hebrews 8:6. Rick stated on Sunday that the New Covenant differs from the old in these ways: it is internal, instead of external. It's focused on relationship, instead of rules. It's about inclusion, instead of exclusion. It highlights grace, instead of guilt. Which of these changes that we see in the New Covenant strikes you as especially meaningful or hopeful today, and why?



- ④ Rick said on Sunday, “The message is not, ‘fix your problems and then come to Jesus.’ The message is actually, ‘Come to Jesus.’”
- Why do you think it can be so tempting for us to think we need to clean ourselves up before we come to Christ?
 - How do we balance the reality that Jesus tells us to come to Him as we are, with the reality that we are called to “work out our salvation with fear and trembling?” See Philippians 2:12 for some help answering this question.
- ⑤ Read Luke 2:8-12. Rick stressed on Sunday that the Old Covenant and the sacrificial system God established in the Old Testament weren’t BAD - they were just not God’s final plan. God’s plan from the beginning was to one day send Jesus Christ to earth to live a perfect life we could never live, die a death that we deserved, and be raised up 3 days later - defeating death and sin. All we have to do is respond to this reality and invite Jesus to be the forgiver and leader of our lives! And this whole plan started with the birth of a baby boy in a stable in Bethlehem, visited by some shepherds who were told of us birth by an angels. What an incredible reality!
- What have you learned so far in our Hebrews sermon series about God’s plan and His character?
 - How can you take what we have been learning in the book of Hebrews about God’s plan and character and share it with your friends and family in this Christmas season?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Knowing the Bible: Hebrews - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowning-bible-hebrews/>



PRAY AND APPLY

Break into smaller groups and pray this prayer, or one like it, for someone in your life who needs to invite Jesus to be the leader and forgiver of their life (you can use the discussion of question number 2 to aid you in this):

A Prayer from Hebrews 8:10-12 for Family and Friends to Be Part of the New Covenant Community

O Lord God, Make _____ one of Your New Covenant people (Ezekiel 36:26). Put Your laws into _____'s mind and write them on _____'s heart (Jeremiah 31:33). Be _____'s God and enable _____ to be one of Your people (Leviticus 26:12). May there be no need for anyone to teach _____ saying, "Know the Lord" because _____ has come to know You personally (John 17:3)! Be merciful toward _____'s iniquities; remember _____'s sins no more (Psalm 103:12). May _____ come to know that this internal change, this personal relationship, this inclusion, this grace is only possible through Jesus (I Timothy 2:5). So, I ask this in the name of Christ Jesus, our Great High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven (Romans 8:34). Amen.



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EQUIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 12.8.24

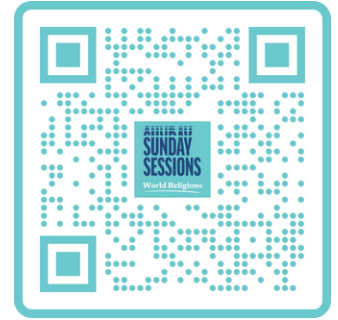
Please take a moment to share these announcements with your group.

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

EQUIP

Sunday Sessions Podcast

Sunday Sessions is a weekly theology class offered in the fall and spring. Each week various topics of doctrine and practice are explored from a conservative, evangelical viewpoint. This fall we are studying Church History and Apologetics. Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in Room 104/106! If you can't make it or miss a week, catch up via our podcast [HERE](#).



CHURCH-WIDE

Christmas Eve Services: December 24th

We'd love to have you join us for one of our four Christmas Eve services on Sunday, December 24th. Services will be at 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, and 11:00pm. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to as well.



MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 6:19

"We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain."