



Jesus is Greater than all other Advocates LEADER GUIDE - March 29, 2020

PRIMARY PASSAGE

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (Hebrews 4:14-16 NIV)

ICE BREAKER

Who's got the craziest quarantine story so far? Everybody still have toilet paper?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1) At some point in time we all need someone to stand up and fight for us. When has someone been your advocate/had your back?

- Leaders share a personal story of when someone had your back.

2) In verse 14 the author describes Jesus as the "great high priest." How was Jesus different than all other high priests?

- Leaders feel free to give background on the role of high priests - the one who would offer sacrifices to God on the peoples' behalf.
- Jesus didn't just come to offer a sacrifice on behalf of people, He came to BE the sacrifice. This is how He is our advocate.

3) Andrew walked through three different aspects of the person and work of Jesus - who He is, what He's done, and what He's doing. Walk through each of these.

- Who Jesus is -> the perfect, sinless son of God. Both fully God and fully man - this allowed Him to be the perfect sacrifice for us
- What Jesus did -> He died on the cross in our place, satisfying the wrath of God then He rose from the dead conquering death and offering us new life. The resurrection is the foundation of our faith.
- What Jesus is doing -> He is at the right hand of the Father interceding/advocating for those who belong to Him.

4) We see in verse 15 that Jesus was tempted in every way just like us. We heard on Sunday that the root of all temptation is the question - Can I really trust God? Have you ever asked this question? What causes us to ask it? What did Jesus do to help us trust God?

- Leaders be transparent and share how you've struggled to trust God in your life
- Jesus trusted God so that we would be able to - His death, burial, and resurrection

5) Verse 16 shares that we can approach the throne of God with confidence. When is the last time you did this or even felt it was possible? How does this change your view of God in the unknown?

6) We not only can approach the throne of God with confidence but we can expect to receive grace and mercy. What do grace and mercy mean? What difference do they make in our life?

- Judgment -> getting exactly what you deserve // what Jesus satisfied on the cross
- Mercy -> not getting what you deserve // what Jesus offers us via the cross
- Grace -> getting what you don't deserve // what Jesus offers us via His resurrection

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1) How can you seek to trust God this week knowing that Jesus is your great high priest/ advocate? How can your group pray for you?

2) How can you begin to be an advocate for others like Jesus is for you - as in, standing up and fighting for those with no voice?