



Jesus is Greater LEADER GUIDE - March 1, 2020

PRIMARY PASSAGE

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. (Hebrews 1:1-3 NIV)

ICE BREAKER

Play a game of who/what is greater.

- Michael Jordan or LeBron James // Walmart or Target // Mayo or Mustard // NFL or NCAA Football // Heels or Flats // Tots or Fries // anything else you can come up with!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1) The book of Hebrews was written to followers of Jesus who were distracted and discouraged in their faith. Have you ever felt this way? What causes us to become discouraged and at times want to walk away from our faith?

- Relationships are hard -> missed expectations with friends, family, and spouses
- People we love and respect walk away from faith, which causes us to question the validity of ours
- Temptation and lure of the world is more enticing than following Jesus
- Walking with Jesus seems to get harder and harder, and at times it seems like He's not even there

2) Hebrews 1:1 shows us that from the very beginning God has wanted us to know Him. How does this change your perspective of God? How has God made Himself known to mankind?

- Creation/nature -> see Romans 1:18-32
- His Word -> OT (Law, Prophets, and books of poetry) and NT (life of Jesus, birth of church, epistles, etc.)

3) The ultimate/final way God has made Himself known is through Jesus. What were some of the ways the author described Jesus in the passage? What is the significance of each of these descriptions?

- Heir -> All that God has ever done points to Jesus
- Creator -> in the beginning He was there and was the agent of creation. He was the maker of all things - see also Genesis 1 and John 1
- Sustainer -> not only did Jesus create, He also sustains - see John 1

- Radiance of God's glory -> Jesus is the overwhelming "shekinah glory" of God
- Exact Representation -> God in a bod, if we know Jesus then we know God - see also John 14:6-7
- Savior -> He provided rescue and purification from our sin. He not only created and sustained creation, He saved it as well
- Victor -> His work is done, death/sin is defeated and He is now seated by the Father

4) For us to truly know God, Jesus had to bridge the gap between us and God caused by our sin. Have you ever responded to the Gospel of Grace through faith? If so, how can you share the hope you have in Jesus with those you know who are struggling as well?

- Leaders feel free to share how you said YES to following Jesus and offer the chance for your group to respond
- People in our lives are dealing with many of the same things we are, and also have questions just like us. Share how knowing Jesus is Greater has given you hope

5) Jesus came to earth so that we could know God in the here and now, not just once we die. How does that change your perspective of your relationship with Him?

- Eternal life doesn't begin when we die, it begins the moment we place our faith in Jesus. Jesus shared in John 10:10 that He came to give us abundant life. The way we do everything -> interact with family, work, hobbies, eat, shop, etc. all should be lived with the knowledge that God is here with us.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1) The way we are able to *press on* in our life is to *press in* to the fact that Jesus is Greater. What are some ways you can press in to this truth this week?

2) Who can you invite to this series so they can hear the truth that Jesus is Greater than anything they will ever face?