

Deep Dive Wednesday

Fall Deep Dive Session: The Book of Hebrews

Wednesdays | Sept. 3 - Oct. 29, 2025



Study Schedule

WEEK	DATE	CHAPTERS COVERED
1	September 3	Introduction
2	September 10	Comparison Hebrews/Gospels
3	September 17	Hebrews Chapters 1–2
4	September 24	Hebrews Chapters 3–5
5	October 1	Hebrews Chapters 6–8
6	October 8	Hebrews Chapters 9–10
7	October 15	Hebrews Chapters 11
8	October 22	Hebrews Chapters 12–13
9	October 29	End of Chapter Review

Week 1: Introduction to Hebrews

September 3

Introduction to the Book of Hebrews

Authorship

The Book of Hebrews is unique in the New Testament because its author is unnamed.

- Early church tradition sometimes attributed it to the Apostle Paul, but differences in style, vocabulary, and structure make many scholars doubt this.
- Others have suggested Barnabas, Apollos, Luke, or Priscilla, but the truth is —God chose not to reveal the human writer.
- This anonymity may point us to the book's central truth: the message is about Christ, not the messenger.

Audience

Hebrews was written to Jewish Christians who were:

- Facing persecution and hardship for their faith (Hebrews 10:32–34).
- Tempted to turn back to Judaism and the Old Covenant system to avoid suffering.
- In danger of becoming spiritually sluggish (Hebrews 5:11–14) and neglecting their confidence in Christ.

These believers knew the Old Testament well, which is why Hebrews is filled with references to:

- The Law of Moses
- The priesthood
- The sacrificial system
- The tabernacle and temple worship

Purpose

The main purpose of Hebrews is to **encourage perseverance by showing that Jesus is better than anything or anyone that came before.**

The writer urges believers to:

1. **Hold firmly** to their faith in Christ (Hebrews 4:14).
2. **Endure** trials with hope (Hebrews 12:1–3).
3. **Mature** in their spiritual walk and not drift away (Hebrews 6:1).

Week 1: Introduction to Hebrews

September 3

Key Themes

1. **The Supremacy of Christ** – Jesus is greater than:
 - The prophets (Hebrews 1:1–3)
 - Angels (Hebrews 1:4–14)
 - Moses (Hebrews 3:1–6)
 - The Old Covenant priesthood (Hebrews 7)
2. **A Better Covenant** – Through His death and resurrection, Jesus mediates a new and better covenant (Hebrews 8:6).
3. **Faith and Perseverance** – Faith is the confident trust in God’s promises, modeled by the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11.
4. **Warning Against Falling Away** – The book contains strong exhortations to keep going, not turn back, and avoid spiritual drift.
5. **Hope in Christ’s Priesthood** – Jesus is our eternal High Priest who intercedes for us and understands our weaknesses (Hebrews 4:14–16).

Personal Application

1. Although Hebrews is specifically addressed to Jewish Christians, its teachings and practical admonitions are equally applicable to Gentile Believers.
2. In Christ there is no distinction between Jew and Gentile (Colossians 3:11).
3. While the epistle is primarily doctrinal in its content, it is also very practical.
4. After each doctrinal passage the writer inserts a section in which he gives some very practical admonitions based on teachings presented. At least 15 times he uses the expression “let” or “let us” (4:1, 11, 14, 16; 6:1; 10:22, 23, 24; 12:1, 2, 28; 13:1, 5, 13, 17).

Practical Takeaway

Hebrews invites us to:

- Fix our eyes on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2).
- Remember that He is both **fully God and fully man**, able to sympathize with our struggles.
- Press forward in faith, knowing our salvation rests on His finished work.

Week 1: Introduction to Hebrews

September 3

Study Questions – Introduction to Hebrews

1. What stood out to you most from the background and purpose of Hebrews?
2. The original audience faced pressure to turn back to what was familiar and safe. Where in your own faith journey have you felt that same pull?
3. Hebrews centers on the truth that “Jesus is better” – better than anything or anyone that came before. What does that phrase mean to you personally?
4. One theme in Hebrews is perseverance in faith. When life gets hard, what helps you keep moving forward spiritually?
5. The writer doesn’t sign their name, keeping the focus on Christ rather than the messenger. How might that speak to how we serve or share our faith today?
6. What questions or topics are you most curious to explore as we walk through Hebrews together?
7. How can you prepare your heart and mind each week to get the most out of this study?

Week 2: Comparison Between the Book of Hebrews and the Gospels

September 10

This comparison highlights the distinct yet complementary ways the Book of Hebrews and the four Gospels present the person and work of Jesus Christ. The Gospels focus on His life and ministry on earth, while Hebrews explains the heavenly and theological significance of His mission.

CATEGORY	BOOK OF HEBREWS	THE GOSPELS (MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN)
Main Focus	Shows the supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus Christ, especially in relation to the Old Covenant.	Tell the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Perspective	Looks at Jesus' work and person theologically — explaining His role as High Priest, mediator of a better covenant, and ultimate sacrifice.	Presents Jesus biographically — telling the story of His words, actions, miracles, and interactions with people.
Primary Audience	Jewish Christians tempted to return to Old Testament law and rituals due to persecution.	Mixed audiences — Jews and Gentiles — introducing them to Jesus as Messiah and Savior.
Timeframe Covered	Focuses on the heavenly and eternal significance of Christ's work, written after His ascension.	Covers Jesus' earthly ministry (roughly 3 years), His death, burial, and resurrection.

Week 2: Comparison Between the Book of Hebrews and the Gospels

September 10

This comparison highlights the distinct yet complementary ways the Book of Hebrews and the four Gospels present the person and work of Jesus Christ. The Gospels focus on His life and ministry on earth, while Hebrews explains the heavenly and theological significance of His mission.

CATEGORY	BOOK OF HEBREWS	THE GOSPELS (MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN)
View of Christ	Emphasizes Jesus as the exalted High Priest, seated at the right hand of the Father, interceding for believers.	Emphasizes Jesus as the Messiah, Teacher, Healer, and Son of God who came to seek and save the lost.
Old Testament Connection	Deeply rooted in OT symbols — priesthood, tabernacle, sacrifices, covenants — showing how they point to Jesus.	References OT prophecies and laws to show Jesus is the fulfillment, but not as extensively symbolic as Hebrews.
Structure	Logical, sermon-like theological argument urging perseverance in faith.	Narrative storytelling with chronological or thematic order.
Key Themes	Christ is better than angels, Moses, priesthood, and sacrifices. New Covenant is superior to the Old. Faith, endurance, and perseverance.	Kingdom of God/Heaven. Love, forgiveness, repentance. Discipleship and following Jesus.

Week 2: Comparison Between the Book of Hebrews and the Gospels

September 10

This comparison highlights the distinct yet complementary ways the Book of Hebrews and the four Gospels present the person and work of Jesus Christ. The Gospels focus on His life and ministry on earth, while Hebrews explains the heavenly and theological significance of His mission.

CATEGORY	BOOK OF HEBREWS	THE GOSPELS (MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN)
Practical Call	Hold fast to faith in Christ despite trials; grow in maturity; draw near to God with confidence.	Repent, believe the Good News, follow Jesus, love God and others.
Key Verse	Hebrews 12:2 – 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...'	John 20:31 – 'These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ... and that by believing you may have life in his name.'

How They Work Together

- The Gospels introduce you to what Jesus did and taught during His earthly life.
- Hebrews explains what His life, death, and resurrection mean for your salvation and ongoing walk with God.
- The Gospels show Jesus on earth; Hebrews shows Jesus in heaven.
- The Gospels invite you to follow Him; Hebrews urges you to keep following Him no matter the cost.

Week 2: Comparison Between the Book of Hebrews and the Gospels

September 10

Study Questions – Hebrews & The Gospels Comparison

1. After hearing the introduction to Hebrews, what's one thing you're most curious to learn or understand as we study this book?
2. When you think about how Hebrews describes Jesus compared to the Gospels, what feels most personal or meaningful to you right now?
3. Hebrews calls Jesus our High Priest — the One who understands our struggles and stands in the gap for us. How does that deepen your love for the Jesus you see teaching, healing, and serving in the Gospels?
4. The Gospels invite us to start walking with Jesus; Hebrews encourages us to keep walking when the road gets hard. Where are you on that journey today?
5. In your life right now, is it harder to take the first steps in following Jesus or to keep holding on to Him through challenges? Why?
6. Seeing Jesus in both His earthly ministry (Gospels) and His heavenly ministry (Hebrews) gives a fuller picture of who He is. Which side of that picture do you feel closest to in this season, and why?
7. What is one simple, practical way you can live out a truth this week that is reinforced by both the Gospels and Hebrews — and who can you share it with for encouragement?

Week 3: Hebrews 1-2

September 17

Hebrews 1–2 Overview

Theme: *Jesus is Greater than the Angels*

Key Points

1. God Has Spoken Through His Son (*Hebrews 1:1–3*)

- In the past, God spoke through prophets; now He has spoken fully and finally through His Son.
- Jesus is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being.
- He sustains all things by His powerful word and has provided purification for sins.

2. Jesus is Superior to Angels (*Hebrews 1:4–14*)

- Angels are servants; Jesus is the Son.
- Old Testament quotes confirm the Son's eternal kingship and divine authority.

3. Pay Careful Attention to the Message (*Hebrews 2:1–4*)

- The danger of drifting away from the truth is real.
- Salvation announced by the Lord and confirmed by eyewitnesses must be embraced fully.

4. Jesus Made Fully Human (*Hebrews 2:5–18*)

- Jesus shared in our humanity to break the power of death and free us from fear.
- He is a merciful and faithful High Priest, able to help us when we are tempted.

Application

- **Anchor in Christ:** Jesus is God's final and complete Word — we have everything we need in Him.
- **Stay Alert:** Drifting away happens subtly; intentional focus keeps us aligned with the truth.
- **Take Comfort:** Jesus understands every struggle we face because He became fully human.
- **Live Confidently:** Through His death and resurrection, He broke the power of sin and death.

Week 3: Hebrews 1-2

September 17

Study Questions

1. How did God speak in time past? How does He speak today? (1:1-2)
2. List five ways that Jesus is superior to the angels. (1:4-14)
3. For whom have the angels been sent forth to minister? (1:14)
4. How can we avoid drifting away? (2:1)
5. What does Psalms 8:4-6 reveal about the creation of man? (2:6-8)
6. Has man maintained his authority over all things? (2:8)
7. List 8 reasons Jesus was made lower than angels (became flesh)? (2:9-18)

Week 4: Hebrews 3-5

September 24

Hebrews 3–5 Overview

Theme: Jesus is Greater than Moses & Our Great High Priest

Key Points

1. Jesus is Greater than Moses (Hebrews 3:1–6)

- Moses was faithful as a servant in God's house, but Jesus is faithful as the Son over God's house.
- We are God's house if we hold firmly to our confidence in Christ.

2. Warning Against Unbelief (Hebrews 3:7–19)

- The Israelites hardened their hearts in the wilderness and missed God's rest.
- Unbelief leads to disobedience and spiritual wandering.

3. God's Rest is Still Available (Hebrews 4:1–13)

- God's rest is both a present spiritual reality and a future promise.
- The Word of God is living, active, and able to judge the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

4. Jesus Our Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14–5:10)

- Jesus sympathizes with our weaknesses because He was tempted in every way, yet without sin.
- We are invited to approach God's throne with confidence to find mercy and grace.
- Jesus was appointed High Priest in the order of Melchizedek, offering perfect obedience.

5. Call to Spiritual Maturity (Hebrews 5:11–14)

- The believers were slow to learn and needed to move from spiritual milk to solid food.
- Maturity comes from constant practice in discerning good from evil.

Application

- **Stay Faithful:** Jesus' superiority over Moses means we must hold fast to Him above all traditions or leaders.
- **Guard Your Heart:** Unbelief begins with small compromises; daily trust in God keeps us from drifting.
- **Pursue God's Rest:** True rest is found in faith and obedience, not in self-effort.
- **Draw Near with Confidence:** Jesus understands your struggles and intercedes for you.
- **Grow Up Spiritually:** Don't stay in spiritual infancy — keep learning, practicing, and living the truth.

Week 4: Hebrews 3-5

September 24

Study Questions

1. How are Moses and Jesus compared? (3:3-6)
2. What 3 things can lead the Christian to fall away? (3:12-13)
3. Who rebelled in the wilderness and did not enter the Promised Land? (3:16-18) Why were they not permitted to enter? (3:19)
4. Why did the word fail to profit many Israelites? (4:2)
5. What 3 different “rests” are spoken of in this chapter? (4:4-10)
6. Why should we hold fast our confession? (4:14-16)
7. What qualifications are necessary to serve as high priest? (5:1, 4) What duties are performed by the high priest? (5:1-3)
8. What should his readers been capable of at that time? (5:12) What did they need instead? Why? (5:12-13)
9. Who is capable of handling the “meat” of the Word? (5:14)

Week 5: Hebrews 6-8

October 1

Hebrews 6-8 Overview

Theme: Maturity in Faith, A Better Priesthood, and A Better Covenant

Key Points

1. Call to Maturity (Hebrews 6:1-12)

- Leave behind the elementary teachings and press on to spiritual maturity.
- Warnings against falling away from the faith are balanced with encouragement that God is faithful.
- Diligence and perseverance inherit the promises of God.

2. The Certainty of God's Promise (Hebrews 6:13-20)

- God confirmed His promise with an oath, making it unchangeable.
- We have hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure, entering the inner sanctuary where Jesus has gone on our behalf.

3. Melchizedek and the Priesthood of Christ (Hebrews 7)

- Melchizedek is a unique Old Testament figure — both king and priest — who points to Christ.
- Jesus' priesthood is eternal, superior to the Levitical priesthood, and based on the power of an indestructible life.
- Because He lives forever, He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him.

4. A Better Covenant (Hebrews 8)

- Jesus is the mediator of a new and better covenant built on better promises.
- The Old Covenant was a shadow; the New Covenant is written on the hearts of God's people.
- In the New Covenant, God promises forgiveness and complete relationship: "I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Application

- **Grow Intentionally:** Don't settle for surface faith — seek deeper understanding and obedience.
- **Anchor Your Hope:** God's promises are unshakable; let them steady you in uncertain times.
- **Trust the Perfect Priest:** Jesus' eternal priesthood means He is always interceding for you.
- **Live the New Covenant:** Let God's law shape your heart and life, walking in grace and intimacy with Him.

Week 5: Hebrews 6-8

October 1

Study Questions

1. What 6 things are mentioned as elementary principles of Christ? (6:1-2) Do you know what each of these mean?
2. What confidence did the author have for his original recipients? Why? (6:9-10)
3. Upon what 2 immutable things does our hope lie? (6:13-18)
4. Where in the Old Testament can we read about Melchizedek? (7:1) What do Melchizedek and the Son of God appear to have in common? (7:3)
5. Why was there a need for a change in the priesthood? (7:11)
6. What evidence is there that the Law has been changed? (7:13-17)
7. Where is our High Priest? In what does He minister? (8:1-2)
8. Why was it necessary to replace the first covenant with the second? (8:7-8) Which covenant was the first, old covenant? (8:9)
9. List characteristics of God's new covenant foretold by Jeremiah. (8:10-12)

Week 6: Hebrews 9-10

October 8

Hebrews 9–10 Overview

Theme: A Better Sanctuary and the Once-for-All Sacrifice

Key Points

1. The Earthly Tabernacle (Hebrews 9:1–10)

- The first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary.
- Priests entered regularly, but the high priest could only enter the Most Holy Place once a year with a blood sacrifice.
- These rituals were temporary symbols pointing to a greater reality.

2. Christ's Superior Sacrifice (Hebrews 9:11–28)

- Jesus entered the true heavenly sanctuary, not with the blood of animals, but with His own blood.
- His sacrifice was once for all, securing eternal redemption.
- He will appear a second time to bring salvation to those who eagerly wait for Him.

3. Confidence to Approach God (Hebrews 10:1–18)

- The law was only a shadow of the good things to come; repeated sacrifices could never fully remove sin.
- By one offering, Jesus made perfect forever those who are being made holy.
- God promises to remember our sins no more.

4. A Call to Persevere (Hebrews 10:19–39)

- We have confidence to enter God's presence by the blood of Jesus.
- We are urged to hold unswervingly to our hope, encourage one another, and not neglect meeting together.
- The righteous live by faith and do not shrink back.

Application

- **Rest in the Finished Work of Christ:** You don't need to earn God's forgiveness — it's been secured once for all.
- **Draw Near with Confidence:** Through Jesus, you can boldly approach God's throne.
- **Stay Connected:** Christian community is essential for encouragement and perseverance.
- **Live Expectantly:** Jesus is coming again — let that hope shape your priorities.

Week 6: Hebrews 9-10

October 8

Study Questions

1. Describe the 2 parts of the earthly tabernacle and what they contained. (9:2-5)
2. What sacrifice did Jesus offer? (9:12, 14)
3. What does the sacrifice of Christ accomplish? (9:12, 14-15, 26, 28)
4. When did the new covenant (testament) come into force? (9:15-17)
5. Why were animal sacrifices insufficient? (10:1-4)
6. In coming to do the will of God, what has Jesus done? (10:9)
7. What distinguishes Christ's sacrifice from those of OT priests? (10:11-14)
8. What's meant by "sin willfully"? What's the consequence of doing so? (10:26-27)
9. What 3 things do we need to receive the promise of God? (10:35-39)

Week 7: Hebrews 11

October 15

Hebrews 11 Overview

Theme: The Hall of Faith

Key Points

1. Definition of Faith (Hebrews 11:1–3)

- Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
- By faith, we understand that the universe was formed at God's command.

2. Examples of Faith from the Old Testament (Hebrews 11:4–31)

- Abel offered a better sacrifice.
- Enoch pleased God and was taken without dying.
- Noah built the ark in reverent obedience.
- Abraham obeyed God's call and trusted His promises.
- Sarah received the ability to conceive because she considered God faithful.
- Moses chose God's people over the pleasures of Egypt.
- Rahab welcomed the spies by faith.

3. Faith Through Trials (Hebrews 11:32–40)

- Others conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and shut the mouths of lions.
- Many endured torture, persecution, and death without seeing the fulfillment of God's promises.
- They were commended for their faith, yet waited for the ultimate fulfillment in Christ.

Application

- **Live by Faith, Not Sight:** Trust God's promises even when you don't see the outcome.
- **Draw Strength from Witnesses:** The stories of faithful believers encourage us to persevere.
- **Count God Faithful:** His track record in Scripture proves He keeps His word.
- **Be Willing to Endure:** Faith often requires sacrifice, patience, and courage.

Week 7: Hebrews 11

October 15

Study Questions

1. What is faith as defined in this chapter? (11:1) Explain it in your own words.
2. What do we understand by faith concerning the worlds? (11:3)
3. What did the “heroes of faith” look forward to receiving? (11:13-16)
4. List some of the amazing things done by faith. (11:33-35)
5. List some of the things these people of faith endured (11:35-38)
6. What did these “heroes of faith” obtain? What did they not? Why? (11:39-40)
7. From this chapter, what do we learn about faith and works?

Week 8: Hebrews 12-13

October 22

Hebrews 12-13 Overview

Theme: Perseverance, Discipline, and Christian Living

Key Points

1. Run with Perseverance (Hebrews 12:1-3)

- Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, lay aside every hindrance and sin.
- Fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith.
- Consider Him who endured opposition so you won't grow weary.

2. God's Loving Discipline (Hebrews 12:4-13)

- Hardship is a sign of God's fatherly discipline.
- Discipline produces a harvest of righteousness and peace.
- Strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees; make level paths for your feet.

3. Warning Against Refusing God (Hebrews 12:14-29)

- Pursue peace and holiness.
- Do not reject God's voice; His kingdom cannot be shaken.
- Worship God with reverence and awe, for He is a consuming fire.

4. Practical Instructions for Christian Living (Hebrews 13:1-19)

- Love one another, show hospitality, and remember those in prison.
- Honor marriage, avoid greed, and be content.
- Respect and pray for church leaders.

5. Final Encouragement and Benediction (Hebrews 13:20-25)

- The God of peace will equip you with everything good for doing His will.
- Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, works in us what is pleasing to God.

Application

- **Keep Your Eyes on Jesus:** He is the source and finisher of your faith.
- **See Trials as Training:** God's discipline shapes you into Christlikeness.
- **Live in Peace and Holiness:** Relationships and conduct reflect your devotion to God.
- **Worship with Awe:** God's unshakable kingdom calls for reverent gratitude.
- **Walk Equipped:** Trust God to provide all you need to do His will.

Week 8: Hebrews 12-13

October 22

Study Guide

1. How are we to run the race of faith? (12:1-3)
2. What can chastening from God accomplish? (12:10-11)
3. As we run the race of faith, what should we pursue and how? (12:12-17)
4. List 4 reasons we should not refuse Him who speaks from heaven? (12:25-29)
5. List the moral exhortations given in this chapter. (13:1-5)
6. Since God promises never to leave or forsake us, what can we say? (13:6)
7. What does the author pray for in behalf of his readers? (13:20-21)
8. What is the final appeal made to his brethren? (13:22)
9. With whom does he hope to soon see them? (13:23)

Week 9: End of Hebrews Study Reflection Guide

October 29

End of Hebrews Study Guide

1. What is the most important truth you discovered about Jesus during this study of Hebrews?
2. Which chapter or passage had the greatest personal impact on you, and why?
3. How has your understanding of Jesus as our High Priest deepened over these weeks?
4. What example from Hebrews (person, warning, or promise) encouraged or challenged you the most?

Personal Application

1. In what specific ways has this study changed the way you approach God?
2. What truth from Hebrews will you carry into your daily life as a constant reminder?
3. Is there an area where you feel God calling you to persevere in faith right now?
4. How can you live more intentionally in the reality that you belong to an unshakable kingdom?

Faith in Action

- One relationship I will invest in because of what I've learned: _____
- One step I will take to encourage another believer: _____
- One area where I will trust God's promises more boldly: _____

Week 9: End of Hebrews Study Reflection Guide

October 29

Declaration of Faith

Write your own statement of faith based on what you've learned in Hebrews:

"Because Jesus is better, I will..."

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, thank You for showing me through Hebrews that You are greater than anything or anyone else in my life. You are my High Priest, my Mediator, my Savior, and my soon-coming King. Help me to hold fast to my faith, run my race with perseverance, and live in the power of Your finished work. Amen.

LET'S FINISH THE FIGHT and close out the year strong as we wrap up our 2025 Deep Dive Discipleship Night.

Join us for the final study of the year — **Joy In Every Season** — a journey through the Book of *Philippians*.

November 12 – December 10, 2025

(Sessions on 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17)

If you have not registered, do so today. Text **'joy'** to **972-833-2300**