

## Spiritual Growth Questions for July 5, 2020

(take one question each day and grow deeper in Bible study)

**Opener:** Describe a time when you saw perseverance really pay off.

1. **Read Hebrews 5:1-10 two times.** What do you think the writer is trying to convey to this Hebrew church as they suffer persecution? What stands out to you?
2. **Read Hebrews 5:1-4.** List the characteristics of a high priest. Summarize what we have already read about Jesus in Hebrews. How does Jesus meet these characteristics? How is this helpful to you as you pray for mercy and grace in your current trials?
3. **Read. Genesis 14:18-20 and Hebrews 5:4-6,7:25.** There is evidence that Jews may have criticized the early Christian movement, and Jesus himself, for apparently snatching at a position which belonged, uniquely and forever, to the temple in Jerusalem. How does Hebrews 5:4-6 address this concern? What is significant about Melchizedek and Jesus? How does Jesus remaining a high priest forever assure our faith and help us endure? **Meditate on Hebrews 7:25.**
4. **Read Hebrews 5:7-8, Luke 19:41, 22:41-44, .** How did God hear the prayers of Jesus? How did the suffering and anguish Jesus experienced prepare him to be our great high priest?
5. What does the phrase in verse Hebrews 5:8, “he learned obedience through what he suffered” mean to you? What part do suffering and death play in Jesus’ perfection? His sonship? How could this experience be helpful to us in our daily lives?
6. **Read Hebrews 5:9-10.** What is the significance of Jesus being the source of eternal salvation? We are saved by grace through faith in Christ, **Ephesians 2:8-9** so what role does obedience have in our lives?
7. **Read the Lord’s prayer in Matthew 6:9-14.** One of the key points is relinquishing our will to His will. This virus might have challenged our urge to control our lives. What do you need to relinquish to the Lord this week? How can we walk with you? Who can you encourage this week?

Practice praying with confidence as you approach the throne of grace. Spend a few minutes praying and meditating on the truth that Jesus understands and can help you. Relinquish your will to His will! Jesus teach me your way of relinquishment. Pray: “Teach me to do your will for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me to level ground.” Psalm 143:10.

Better with Jesus: A Study of the Book of Hebrews  
Jesus: Our path to a Healthy Relationship with God  
Hebrews 5:1-10. July 5, 2020  
Pastor John Lloyd

The book of Hebrews presents the greatness of Christ like no other New Testament writing. The author knew that by remembering and lifting up Jesus, he would help the readers endure their difficult circumstances. As this book is read, it demands a response. Today, we will consider Jesus as our compassionate high priest. Our greatest need is a healthy relationship with God which is accomplished through Jesus. As we surrender our will to His will, health comes to our souls.

Hebrews 5:1 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.<sup>3</sup> Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. 4 And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. 5 So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; 6 as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.” 7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. 8 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. 9 And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,<sup>10</sup> being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

**Key Idea:** Jesus is our great high priest! Jesus understands and helps us. Surrendering our will to His will is a key foundation for a healthy relationship with God. **I surrender all!**

**Key questions:** What is a high priest? How was Jesus selected? How His path encourages us in our trials?

Passionate Welcome, **Passionate Word**, Passionate Worship, Passionate Witness and Passionate Way of Life.

**What is a high priest?**

I. Every person needs someone to \_\_\_\_\_ them before God.

Hebrews 5:1 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.<sup>3</sup> Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. 4 And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

### Jesus met the qualifications of a high priest by:

1. Being human to understand human weakness.
2. Presenting gifts and sacrifices for our sins.
3. Being appointed by God. He could not appoint himself.
4. Representing the people in matters relating to God.

Hebrews 5:2 He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way. (see Judges 17:6 Genesis 3:5)

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

### I can surrender all because Jesus understands my fallen condition.

How was Jesus selected?

II. Jesus was appointed by God to be our \_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 5:5 So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; 6 as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

Focus change from human high priest to the God-man high priest. God sovereignly appoints Jesus. Jesus humbly accepts.

Identifies with Melchizedek, Psalm 110:4 eternal priesthood  
Zechariah prophesied this would happen: Zechariah 6:9-14 (King and priest office would be merged together)  
Melchizedek different than other priests because he never died.  
(Genesis 14:18-20)

Hebrews 7:25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost<sup>[a]</sup> those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Our greatest need is a healthy relationship with God. Jesus makes that relationship possible!

### I can surrender all because Jesus keeps on serving as my high priest.

How does the path of Jesus encourage us in our trials?

III. Jesus modeled total \_\_\_\_\_/relinquishment to His Father’s will.

Hebrews 5:7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

During his life Jesus offered prayers: Luke 22:41-44 in the garden of Gethsemane, Luke 19:41 praying over Jerusalem. John 11:35 at the death of Lazarus. **Cries-** it cannot be held in. **reverence-** falling down at the Father’s feet.

Jesus felt the full fury of God’s wrath poured on Him- a perfect holy and obedient person. Matthew 27:46 My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?  
Psalm 22:1-6 abandoned by God, 7-13, spurned by mankind, 14-18 physical sufferings, 19-21 prayer for resurrection, 22-31 thanksgiving for answered prayer.

Heb.5:8 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.

Jesus learned firsthand what it meant to maintain obedience in the midst of suffering. Suffering made his human experience complete.

He was not made perfect in the sense that he was once impoverished and needed to be improved. His learning obedience through suffering was a prerequisite for being a qualified and sufficient high priest. Moehler

**Submitting to God’s will may be the biggest lesson we need to learn during these challenging days.**

**A weak Christian who prays is more powerful than an army with a king.**

Hebrews 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, (Saved by grace... but saved to obey God’s will)

The lifelong perfect obedience of Jesus is the basis for eternal salvation. ESV

Our salvation is not earned by obedience. It is a gift to us in Christ. Followers of Jesus will want to express their faith by ongoing obedience. D.A. Carson

**Prayer:** Jesus, I don’t like the idea of giving up control. I really want to be in control. No, I need to be in control. No that isn’t it. I am afraid to give up control, afraid of what might happen. Heal my fear, Lord. Jesus I give control of my life to you. Teach me your way of relinquishment... not my will but yours be done. Help me to keep surrendering my will to God’s will even in the most difficult times.

Hebrews 5:10 being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek

**Jesus never stops praying for us! He never stops working on our behalf!  
I surrender all! All to thee my blessed Savior... I surrender all!**