

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Hebrews 5:1-14

Lesson 7

The Hebrew believers understood what a *High Priest* was, but only according to Aaron, the first *High Priest* and his descendants. We, as New Testament believers, are not as familiar with this office of *High Priest*. In this week's study the writer contrasts our great *High Priest*, Jesus the Son of God, with Aaron and reveals His superiority to Aaron. The chapter ends with a rebuke to the believers who should have been maturing in their knowledge of the Lord. May this study encourage you and challenge you to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus.

DAYS ONE AND TWO: Read Hebrews 5

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

a. Hebrews 5 has been divided into three sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-4

Verses 5-11

Verses 12-14

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

After titling each section, record a title for Chapter 5.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in prior homework lessons: *God*, *Jesus*, and *High Priest* (include *priest*)

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Hebrews 5. Remember, as you mark these words, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them.

3. Note the sentences (verses 1, 12, and 13) which begin with the word *for*. Also, note the sentence which begins with the word *but* (verse 14). Record each statement. Keep these in mind as you continue to study this chapter.

4. Using the chart titled *Jesus*, list a few things that Hebrews 5 reveals about Him.

DAY THREE: Read Hebrews 5:1-4

1. The subject of Jesus' priesthood continues in chapter five. In Judaism the office of *High Priest* was the highest religious office. Hebrews 5:1-4 provides information concerning the qualifications for this office. Record what Hebrews 5:1 declares about *every High Priest* by completing the following phrases:
 - a. *taken* _____
 - b. *is appointed* _____
 - c. *that he* _____
2. The *High Priest* represented God to man and represented man to God. In your own words, write what each of the verses in Hebrews 5:2-4 reveals about the office of the priest:
 - a. Hebrews 5:2
 - b. Hebrews 5:3
 - c. Hebrews 5:4
3. Verse 2 tells us that because the High Priest is human, he *can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray*. We know from experience that all men, simply because they are human, do not have *compassion*. What does Leviticus 16:11 say that Aaron must first do before he offered sacrifices for others?
 - a. How have you discovered confessing your sins before the Lord, increased your *compassion* for others?
 - b. Why do you think it is important for a *High Priest* to have *compassion*?

4. Now consider Jesus as your *High Priest* as you review Hebrews 5:1-4. Record any parallels you observe.
 - a. Which of these are you most grateful for today?

5. Note how one became a *High Priest*. In what ways do you see this applies to God's calling on people today?
 - a. How does believing this affect your attitude/behavior towards those in ministry in your church?

6. As John the Baptist was ministering in Galilee, some came to him and questioned Jesus' authority. What did John say to them? see John 3:27
 - a. Because of this, John made a choice. What did he say he *must* do? see verse 30
 - 1.) John recognized Jesus' authority as coming *from heaven*. The author of Hebrews also recognized this. What is your reaction?

Personal: Ponder this: What might be some changes you should make in your life that reflect this reaction?

DAY FOUR: Read Hebrews 5:5-10

1. The focus of Hebrews 5:5-10 is on Jesus Christ as the superior *High Priest*. You will recall from Hebrews 5:4 the calling and appointment of the priest was not of man, but of God. Christ was also called by the Father. What does Hebrews 5:5,6 say that verifies this?
 - a. Hebrews 5:5,6 quotes Psalm 2:7 and Psalm 110:4. The word *begotten* does not refer to Christ's birth, but to His resurrection as He was *begotten* from the dead. Print in all caps the glorious word from Psalm 110:4 and Hebrews 5:6 that declares the duration of Jesus' *priesthood*.
 - 1.) Share how this fact is significant to you.

Challenge: Research the priesthood of *Melchizedek* and record some of your discoveries.

2. Read Hebrews 5:7-10. Record what each of these verses reveals about Jesus Christ. Use other versions to aid in your understanding.
 - a. Hebrews 5:7
 - b. Hebrews 5:8
 - c. Hebrews 5:9
 - d. Hebrews 5:10
3. The words *learned* (verse 8) and *perfected* (verse 9) do not indicate that Jesus was deficient in any way. These verses tell us Jesus was perfectly submitted and totally obedient to the will of the Father. He was perfected, or made complete, as a Savior through His work on the cross. Record from verse 9 the incredible, wonderful result of Jesus' suffering and sacrifice.
 - a. No Old Testament priest could offer salvation, let alone *eternal salvation*, to anyone. Record in your own words the truths of John 5:24 and 1 John 5:20.
 - 1.) Why are these truths not narrow- minded or judgmental?
4. According to Hebrews 5:9, to whom did Jesus become *the author of eternal salvation*?
 - a. Look up Romans 6:17, Romans 10:16 and 2 Thessalonians 1:8 and record the understanding they give to the word *obey*:
 - 1.) Define *obeying the gospel* in your own words.

DAY FIVE: Read Hebrews 5:11-14

1. The writer will continue his appeal and warning to his readers in subsequent chapters. But, he uses the next few verses to challenge their walks. Hebrews 5:11-14 reveals one reason why some of the recipients of this letter were tempted to go back into Jewish legalism – they were not maturing in their relationship with Christ. Contrast the immature believer with the mature believer by completing the chart below.

Immature Believer (verses 11-13)	Mature Believer (verse 14)

2. The word *dull* in verse 11 means *slothful* or *lazy*. What does it mean to be *dull of hearing*?
 - a. What measures would a person need to take to prevent this from happening in their lives?
3. Using verse 12, what *ought* mature believers *to be*?
 - a. Not all believers are called to stand behind a podium and teach. What are some other examples of *teaching* all mature believers can (and *ought* to) do?
 - b. How does this challenge you?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 and summarize what it reveals about spiritual infancy (*carnality*).
 - a. Ephesians 4:11-12 challenge believers to growth/perfection. According to Ephesians 4:13-15, what are some characteristics of a growing believer?
 - b. What are some changes you notice in your own life as you grow in the Lord?
5. The mature believer is better able to *discern both good and evil*. (Hebrews 5:14) How would this be a deterrent to the temptations the recipients of this letter were facing?

DAY SIX: Review Hebrews 5

1. Recall something you learned from each of the following paragraphs:
 - a. Hebrews 5:1-4

 - b. Hebrews 5:5-10

 - c. Hebrews 5:11-14

2. Describe your great *High Priest*, Jesus.

3. Jesus became all He was intended to be through obedience and suffering. How does this encourage and challenge you?

4. In what way has this lesson motivated you toward spiritual growth and maturity?

but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

- 2 Peter 3:18