

# Hebrews: Pursuing the Highest Pleasure

## “Dealing with Sin in My Life”

Hebrews 10:1-18 – November 13, 2005

### Overview of Hebrews

HEBREWES: PURSUING THE HIGHEST PLEASURE			
	Bible Text	Sermon Title	Date
SUPERIOR PERSON	Hebrews 1:1-3	Pursuing the Highest Pleasure	Aug 21
	Hebrews 1:4-14	All About Angels	Aug 28
	Hebrews 13:2	What the Bible Says About Natural Disasters	Sept 4
	Hebrews 2:1-4	Once Saved, Always Saved?	Sept 11
	Hebrews 2:5-18	Dealing with Shame	Sept 18
	Hebrews 3:1-4:13	Dealing with Distractions/Restlessness	Sept 25
	Hebrews 4:14-5:10	Dealing with Unanswered Prayers	Oct 2
	Hebrews 11:5-6	Rachel’s Challenge: A Modern Day Enoch	Oct 9
	Hebrews 5:11-6:12	Dealing with Immaturity	Oct 16
SUPERIOR WORK	Hebrews 6:13-7:28	Dealing with Distance from God (1)	Oct 30
	Hebrews 8:1-13	Dealing with Distance from God (2)	Nov 6
	Hebrews 9:1-28	We’re Getting a New Sanctuary!	Oct 23
OUR RESPONSE	Hebrews 10:1-18	Dealing with Sin in My Life	Nov 13
	Hebrews 10:19-39	Dealing with Joylessness	Nov 20
	Hebrews 12:1-3	Dealing with Hindrances	Nov 27
	Hebrews 12:4-17	Dealing with God’s Discipline	Dec 4
	Hebrews 12:18-29	Our God is a Consuming Fire	Dec 11
	Hebrews 13:1-6	Sex in Marriage	Dec 18
	Hebrews 13:7-25	Giving God a Sacrifice of Praise	Dec 25

### Overview of Hebrews

- Audience = A group of Jewish/Hebrew Christians (believers) who were considering abandoning their Christian faith and reverting to Judaism (old covenant) because of the persecution they were experiencing (10:32-36).
- Main Message: Don’t go back to the old covenant! Jesus and the new covenant are superior! Hang in there! Patiently endure the persecution that you are undergoing by fixing your eyes on Jesus who is superior in all ways – He is the highest pleasure (12:1-3).

### How to Deal With Sin in My Life

#### 1) Confess \_\_\_\_\_ my sin to God

- confess = “agree” – agree with God that it is wrong
- repent = “turn away from” – turn away from the sin and turn to God
- NOT: 1. kick the habit, then... 2. turn to God
- RATHER: 1. turn to God, then... 2. God will empower you to do what He wants you to do
- **Psalm 32:3-5** – *When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord” – and You forgave the guilt of my sin.*

- Psalm 51 – The prayer of confession David prayed to God after he committed adultery with Bathsheba.
- Application: What sins do I need to confess to God? \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2) Receive \_\_\_\_\_ and believe God’s complete forgiveness of my sin

- **1 John 1:9** - *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*
- What does NOT work: **Hebrews 10:1-4,11**
- Old covenant approaches that we still try to use today
  - Punishing myself
  - Punishing others (Cincinnati elder story)
  - Trying to stack up spiritual brownie points with God
  - AA definition of “insanity” = Doing the same things and expecting different results
- What DOES work: **Hebrews 10:5-10,12-18**
- **Colossians 2:13-14** - *You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins. 14 He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ’s cross. (New Living Translation)*
- **Micah 7:19** – *You will again have compassion on us; You will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.*
- Corrie ten Boom: “What does the Bible say? Your sin is in the depth of the sea, forgiven and forgotten, and there is a little notice that says, NO FISHING ALLOWED!”
- Application: Which approach will I take to deal with my guilt over my sins? Will I receive and believe what God’s Word says about the 100% forgiveness of my sins through Jesus Christ? Will I stop fishing for my guilt trying to bring it up again? \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3) Ask \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Spirit to sit on the throne of my life and to give me future victory over this sin

- **Ephesians 5:18** - *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*
- In the same way that alcohol influences/controls the person who drinks it, drink in God’s Spirit and allow Him to influence, control, and empower you to walk in victory over future sin.
- Application: Holy Spirit, I invite You to sit in the driver’s seat of my life. I drink You in! I want to be drunk with You!

#### 4) Confess this sin to a trusted Christian friend \_\_\_\_\_ and ask for accountability

- **James 5:16** - *Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*
- All the “one another” verses in the Bible: WE NEED EACH OTHER!!!
- **Hebrews 10:23-25**
- **Proverbs 27:17** – *As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.*

- **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** – *Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!*
- **Application:** Who is someone (same gender) that I can entrust my life to, confess my sins to, and ask to hold me accountable? \_\_\_\_\_  
When am I going to do it? \_\_\_\_\_
- Covenant Eyes Accountability for Internet Use (millionmightymen.com)

**5) Stay away from the edge of the cliff**

- If alcohol is your struggle, then **DON'T GO TO THE LIQUOR STORE!!!**
- Audio drama from "Passport to Purity" (familylife.com)
- **Application:** What places, people, or situations do I need to stay away from in order to walk in victory over my sin issues? \_\_\_\_\_
- **1 Corinthians 8:13** - *Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.*
- **Application:** How can I be a person who helps other people not stumble?

How I dress	Way I deal with alcohol	Magazines in our home
Food I have in house	Way I handle prayer requests	
Other:		

**6) Renew my mind to who I am in Christ so that I may walk in my true identity**

- **Romans 12:2** - *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.*
- **Romans 6:11** - *In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.*
- Miles Stanford's The Complete Green Letters
  - Positional holiness – What is true about me positionally in Christ
  - Experiential holiness – What is true in my day to day experience
- Renewing my mind to my true position in Christ results in experientially living like the child of God that I truly am
- Renew your mind to **Hebrews 10:10,14**
- **Application:** By faith I believe and receive that I am a child of the King of the universe, that I am completely forgiven, that (in Him) I am holy, perfect, righteous. I am a saint!

**Discussion Questions with Family, Friends, and Small Group**

1. Of the six steps to dealing with sin, which ones are new to you? Which ones do you feel like you practice regularly? Which ones do you need to incorporate into your life? (discuss at length each step)
2. Read Hebrews 10:1-18 aloud and discuss its meaning.

## Phase III – Plan B An Opportunity to Live Out Our Values

**Capital Campaign Results**

- God's people have committed by faith: \$4.1 million (as of 11-7-2005)
- This is awesome! This represents sacrificial, prayer-filled giving. It is beautiful to God and me! This is precious incense!
- However, it is not enough to do a \$9.3 million project. The minimum we needed to do such a project was \$5.0-\$5.5 million.

**Opportunity to Live Our Values**

- We have an opportunity to "walk the talk" and live out our values concerning responsible debt and following God's leading.
- This is real life: This is the kind of decision all of us have to make many times in our own real lives. Many times our individual dreams are bigger than our pocketbooks. Our corporate family has the opportunity to model "not buying more house than we can afford."
- Your Governance Team voted this week to live out our values, to not overextend ourselves in unwise debt, and to pursue a "Plan B" that will achieve the same objectives (double everything) but within the range of our pocketbook

**Plan B**

- A "Plan B" approach can still achieve all our original objectives: Double land, double worship space, double youth, double children, double parking, admin.
- The only difference will be the cost/"niceness" of the interim worship center

<i>Plan A</i>	<i>Plan B</i>
Buy 16 acres land including Mansion	Buy 16 acres land including Mansion
Move administration to Mansion	Move administration to Mansion
Move youth to current worship center	Move youth to current worship center
Expand children into current youth area	Expand children into current youth area
Double parking	Double parking
Build \$4.0 million interim worship ctr as stand alone where crushed parking is	Build \$1.5 million interim worship ctr under Arena behind the Mansion
Total cost = \$9.3 million	Total cost = \$6.4 million (rough estimate)
Assumed debt = \$6.1 million	Assumed debt = \$3.2 million

- Building Team is plowing forward with the Plan B concept. There is much work to do in developing drawings and plans, securing feasibility, determining final costs, etc. Building Team also has 4 other options in their hip pocket to achieve the original directive should the Arena plan not work.

**What Can You Do?**

- **Pray:** Thank God for His perfect provision! Pray for the Building Team – God's blueprints, God's leading, God's favor in every part of the process.
- **Start Giving:** As God leads, start giving toward your Phase III faith commitment. Put "Phase III" or "Building" or "Into the Deep Water" on check memo. If you should want to change your faith commitment, you can do so confidentially to [lwilton@whatisgrace.org](mailto:lwilton@whatisgrace.org)
- **Stay Informed:** Two town hall meetings: Dec. 4 @ 12:30 p.m.; Feb. 5 @ 12:30. Charge Conference vote on final, final plans: Feb. 26, 2006