

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of June 19-25, 2022

“JESUS, OUR PERFECT SYMPATHIZER”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What activities do you do to “rest” your soul?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Hebrews 4:14-16.

1. Read Hebrews 2:14-18. The writer of Hebrews tells us that Jesus can sympathize with us because he entered our sin-cursed world, and took upon himself real human body. What “weaknesses” do you experience that you are most thankful that Jesus also can identify with?
2. Does Jesus’ sympathy for our weaknesses mean that he tolerates sin? Hebrews 4:15 makes this astonishing point: even though Jesus can identify with us in every way, he had no sin whatsoever. Why is this important?
3. Since Jesus is both sinless and sympathetic, we can approach him and he can approach God on our behalf. How does this truth affect the way we view our trials? The way we view our sin? The attitude in which we approach God in prayer?
4. According to Matt. 4:1-11, how did Jesus respond to each of Satan’s temptations? How does Jesus’ victory over temptation give us hope? (See also Hebrews 2:18). Is it hard for you to believe you can overcome temptation?
5. The writer of Hebrews often stresses the theme of “drawing near” in contrast with “shrinking back” (See Hebrews 6:18; 10:22, 39; 12:22; 13:13). Read Hebrews 10:19-25. What it looks like when Christians “draw near” to God?
6. Hebrews 4:16 is an open invitation for us to bring to Christ all our life issues, our work and relational struggles, our trials and pain. How have you let personal failures and disappointing actions of others prevent you from approaching God boldly in prayer?

7. Why is boldness before God significant for a Christian? What are some ways you can approach God boldly this week?

8. NEXT STEPS

Come to the throne of grace and pour out your heart to God. He will not turn you away.

- I will trust Jesus with every issue of my life and depend on him.
- I am reminded that Jesus became human so that he can sympathize with us and help us.
- I will boldly approach God about my struggles and pain, trusting that he understands every one of them.
- I will share God’s love and reach out to my friends and loved ones.

Don’t forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God’s intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for a heart that sympathizes with others just as Christ does the same for you.
- Pray for grace to fully trust God and depend on him in every area of life.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who’s going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

June 20	Hebrews 4:14-16
June 21	Hebrews 2:9-18
June 22	Romans 12:9-21
June 23	Ecclesiastes 1:8-11
June 24	Mark 6:1-6
June 25	2 Corinthians 1:8-11
June 26	Matthew 4:23–5:12