



HEBREWS CHAPTER 8 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of 10/31/21

Icebreaker: Depending on when you meet, it's either the last day of October (Happy Halloween Reformation Day) or the first week of November. What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Read Hebrews 8 as a group, then select 2-3 questions from below to discuss together.

1. Based on what we saw last week in chapter 7 and in this week's passage, what do you think the author means in verse 4 by saying that "if [Jesus] were on earth, he would not be a priest at all"?
2. What do you think it means in the first 5 verses that earthly priests served "a copy and shadow of the heavenly things"?
3. People in our day may think of what's going on "down here" on earth as being *really real* and what's heavenly or spiritual as something less than real...it's "*spiritual*" after all. How does verse 5 challenge that notion?

Do you think we engage in practices today at Calvary that might also be "a shadow and copy of the heavenly things"? If so, what examples can you think of?

4. The text tells us in verse 6 that Christ is the mediator of a better covenant than the old. What can you think of from the passage that makes this new covenant better?
5. If the old covenant had "faults" (see v. 7), what do you think its purpose was? Did God miscalculate humanity's ability to fulfill it or make some other kind of mistake with it if it had to be replaced?
6. The author of Hebrews shines a spotlight on Jeremiah 31:31-34. What significance do you see in the following key phrases from the second half of verse 10 through verse 12?
7. Gratitude is something that can be cultivated, so let's give it a shot! What new covenant reality from this passage are you grateful for?