

Nov 6, 9

A Better Covenant Hebrews 8:1-13

## Connect (15-20 mins)

1. Follow up on any prayer requests from last week. Share highs and lows or updates as you settle in. You can also find our list of 100 Ice Breaker Questions in our Leader Tool Kit in your Well account.

## Grow (5-10 mins)

2. Consider sharing what steps you took this last week to continue processing the sin. Knowing that Jesus has and will continue to intercede, and that he is inviting you into something better, what came about?

## **Share (45-60 mins)**

- 3. What was your understanding of God's covenant prior to today's message? How has this week's message changed or deepened your understanding of God's character through his Covenants both old and new?
- 4. In what ways is the New Covenant in Christ better than the Old Covenant given through Moses? How were they different? What could the law not do that Jesus ultimately did? What does that mean for us today to be in a New Covenant with Christ?
- 5. What was meant by the author of Hebrews when they wrote that the new covenant made the old one "obsolete"? If all scripture is "inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16), then how are we to apply the law of the Old Testament today? How does what Jesus said Matthew 5:17 shed light on this?
- 6. God's covenants that he made with his people were always meant to reveal who he is to his people and some have argued that He is different in the Old Testament than in the New. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. What misconceptions or wrong teachings have you been influenced by in regards to God's revelation of himself and how did that affect your relationship with him?



## Practice: Shema (Embracing the Gospel Over Time)

(As you read these next passages, note that God's heart for his people has always been the same)

 Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 and meditate on how God spoke of and has completed what he said he was going to do.

Remember the law was there to help the Israelites know how to follow Him (Old Covenant), but in sin and flesh they could not. Ultimately Christ dealt with the indwelling presence of sin, sealing us with His Spirit. We now experience a "Spirit-Influenced Inclination & Capacity to Obey" as active participants in the New Covenant, those who have put their faith in Jesus Christ. This covenant is unconditional, completely fulfilled in himself.

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (The Shema) as a Prayer.

"Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as [b] frontals [c] on your forehead. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

As you prayed and meditated on the scripture above, how might the Lord be stirring you to embrace what it means to live in the New Covenant through Christ? In what ways are you still finding yourself still doubting that He has completed all the things he said he would? He made a way for us to be with him, not by anything we did, but because of the finished work of the cross. In Christ, we are now being regenerated back to God's purpose and design.

For next week: Read Hebrews 9:1-28:

Write in a journal or the margins of your bible

- What did this passage teach you about God?
- What questions do you have?
- What is one thing you can apply to your life from this passage?