

NOT ON OUR WATCH

Hebrews Advent Study

Week One

Activity: Conversation Cookies and Cocoa

- Choose your favorite cookies to make as a family
- Bake the cookies and make the best cup of hot chocolate (or maybe mom and dad need a cup of coffee)
- As you sit at the table as a family talk about the Christmas season beginning.
- Talk about what you are looking forward to, talk about some of your favorite Christmas memories. Talk about what you want to be different about the Christmas season.
- Pray the Lord would open your hearts and minds as you start this advent study together. Pray that the Lord would make Christmas new and more meaningful to you than it has ever been.

December 1: Hebrews 1:1-7

How did God speak to our Fathers? How does God speak now? Where does Jesus sit? How does this relate to Christmas?

December 2: Hebrews 1:8-14

What are angels sent to do? Where will Jesus' enemies end up?

December 3: Hebrews 2:1-9

Who was Jesus made lower than? For how long? What would we drift from? Who did Jesus taste death for? What Old Testament book did verses 6-8 come from?

December 4: Hebrews 2:10-18

Who is the founder of salvation? Verse 14 says Jesus partook of the same things we do, what specific things did Jesus partake in? Who does Jesus help?

Why did Jesus have to become like us? How does this relate to Christmas?

December 5: Hebrews 3:1-9

Who is Jesus more worthy than? Christ is faithful over_____ How are we God's house?

December 6: Hebrews 3:10-19

How can someone be hardened? Who heard and rebelled? Why were they unable to enter the promised land?

December 7: Hebrews 4:1-8

Why did they not hear the message? Who will not get rest?



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Week Two

Activity: Make baggies of Christmas Chex Mix and take them to a local nursing home to pass out to the residents. Make the Chex Mix as a family and pray over who will receive it. Some nursing home residents don't see their families very often and giving them this blessing will warm their hearts. As you drop off the baggies, take some time to visit with each resident to make them feel extra special. Here's a recipe for Christmas Chex Mix, or you can google your own recipe!

https://www.chex.com/recipes/christmas-chex-party-mix/?pp=1 Ingredients:

- 6 cups Rice Chex[™] or Corn Chex[™] cereal
- 2 cups miniature marshmallows (from 10.5-oz bag)
- 1 cup mini pretzel twists (from 16-oz bag)
- 15 oz vanilla candy coating (almond bark) (about 9 cubes from 20-oz package)
- 3 tablespoons holiday-colored sprinkles or nonpareils
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup holiday-colored candy-coated chocolate candies

Directions:

- 1. Line large rimmed cookie sheet with waxed paper. In large bowl, mix cereal, marshmallows and pretzels.
- 2. In medium microwavable bowl, microwave candy coating uncovered on High 60 to 90 seconds, stirring after 1 minute, until almost melted. Stir until smooth. Pour onto cereal mixture; mix well.
- 3. Spread on cookie sheet; sprinkle with holiday sprinkles, and cool completely, about 15 minutes. Break into bite-size pieces.
- 4. In 2-gallon resealable food-storage plastic bag, add coated cereal pieces and powdered sugar. Seal bag; shake to coat. Remove from bag; discard any remaining powdered sugar.
- 5. In large serving bowl, mix coated cereal mixture and chocolate candies.

December 8: Hebrews 4:9-16

When you enter God's rest, what do you rest from? If you do not rest you could fall into

The word of God is _____ and

Is anything hidden from God? Who is our high priest?

December 9: Hebrews 5:1-7

What is a high priest chosen for? What did Jesus offer up? How does this relate to Christmas?

December 10: Hebrews 5:8-14

How did Jesus learn obedience? Jesus was a high priest after the order of

_____? You need _____ not solid

What is being mature?

December 11: Hebrews 6:1-10

What would it look like for you to leave the elementary things of Christ behind, and move forward to maturity? Land that produces thorns and thistles is what? God is not

December 12: Hebrews 6:11-20

Verse twelve talks about not being lazy, but imitating those who, through their faith, inherit what has been promised to them. Who is someone you would want to imitate? What was the promise Abraham received? What is the hope that is the anchor for our souls?

Verses nineteen and twenty talk about the curtain in the temple where Jesus entered on our behalf. Why is it meaningful that Jesus is our high priest? Why is it important that Jesus entered behind the curtain on our behalf?

December 13: Hebrews 7:1-14

Who gave Melchizedek a tenth of his plunder?

Verse eleven talks about perfection being attained through the priesthood, which we know was not the case. Why did another priest need to come? Which tribe of Israel were the priests?

December 14: Hebrews 7:15-28

What better hope did Jesus introduce? Why is the birth of Jesus so significant in this better hope?

What has prevented the many other priests from continuing in office?

Jesus has permanent priesthood because he is ______!!!

Who saves completely?

What does it mean that Jesus intercedes for us?

What qualities does verse twenty six say Jesus has as our high priest?

Other high priests sacrificed day after day but Jesus sacrificed _____and for

____?

How would our lives look different without the birth of Jesus?



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Week Three

Activity: Make Christmas cards for your neighbors. In your cards, write nice notes to each neighbor from each member of your family. As you write the cards, talk with your family about the importance of being a good neighbor and showing kindness to others. If you want, you can include a gift card to a restaurant or a small gift.

December 15: Hebrews 8:1-6

Every high priest is appointed to offer what? What gifts and sacrifices does Jesus offer as our high priest?

December 16: Hebrews 8:7-13

Why was the first covenant not enough? What Old Testament passage is used in verses 8-12?

Verse eleven says we will not need a teacher, for we will know the Lord. How do we know God?

December 17: Hebrews 9:1-14

What was in the ark of the covenant? How often did the high priest go behind the second curtain?

For whom would he offer sacrifices? What secured the eternal redemption? What was the purification of the flesh? Verse thirteen

What will purify our conscience from dead works to serve a living God? Verse fourteen

December 18: Hebrews 9:15-28

Jesus is the mediator of what? Without the _____ of ____ there is

no of .

Where has Jesus entered on our behalf, and who has he appeared before?

Jesus put sin away by the sacrifice of what? Jesus will return again to save those who are what?

December 19: Hebrews 10:1-20

Verse four says it is impossible to take away what?

Where is Jesus sitting?

What does forgiveness mean to you? What gives us confidence to enter the Holy Place?

What curtain is verse twenty talking about?

December 20: Hebrews 10:21-40

What is the confession of our hope? He who promised is What are we not supposed to neglect from verse twenty five? What does verse thirty one say is a fearful thing? Should we deliberately go on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth? How should we endure suffering? Where is our reward? How will you not shrink back? How will you preserve your soul? December 21: Hebrews 11:1-20 Who all is listed as having faith? Name as many people as you can find.

Based on verse 1 what is faith?

What do we need to please God?

In order to draw near to God we must believe what? Verse 16 talks about a better country, a heavenly one. What do you think that will be like?



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Week Four

Activity: Meaningful Verse Ornament

- Choose a verse that has been most meaningful for you over the weeks of this study.
- Purchase a package of Christmas ornament balls from your local dollar store.
- Write out the verse on the ornament with the year.
- Talk as a family about why that verse is meaningful for you. What it has taught you.
- Then hang those ornaments on the tree

December 22: Hebrews 11:21-40

Moses was willing to give up the fleeting pleasures of sin to be mistreated with the people of God. What do you sacrifice for the Lord?

What temporary things do we focus on rather than on the reward of heaven? What eternal things should we focus on? Verses 32-37 talk about all the ways these people of faith were treated. Do you have faith the Lord would provide for you during similar times?

If your name was listed with these amazing people of faith, would you be one "who the world is not worthy of?"

December 23: Hebrews 12:1-18

What sin do you cling to that you need to let go of?

Who is the founder and perfecter of our faith?

Who does the Lord discipline?

When the Lord disciplines us we share in his what?

Discipline might seem painful at the time but it yields what?

December 24: Hebrews 12:19-29

Moses trembled with fear to approach the mountain of God. What has changed now that we need not fear to approach God? We are grateful to receive a Kingdom that cannot be what?

December 25: Hebrews 13:1-12

How can we show hospitality? What are we to keep our life free from? Where does our help come from? Does Jesus ever change? How was the sacrifice of animals similar to Jesus' sacrifice, in terms of location?

December 26: Hebrews 13:13-25

What sacrifices are pleasing to God? What does the author pray the reader is equipped with? How has Christmas been different for you this year in light of what you have learned from the book of Hebrews? How is the birth of Jesus more important now that you understand how exalted and majestic that moment was?