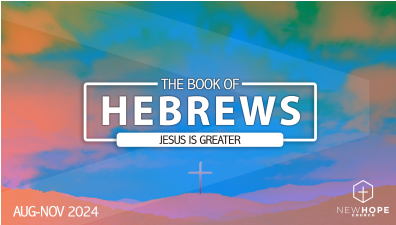


HEBREWS

Week 8 - SEPT 29-OCT 5



New Hope | Small Groups



SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES:

SAFE GROUP: everyone can be real, open, and honest with their struggles and victories.

CONFIDENTIALITY: What is said in the group stays in the group.

LISTEN: really listening to what is being shared. Try to avoid thinking about how you are going to respond, or what you are going to say next.

PAUSE: Give the person sharing the chance to finish and the group the opportunity to consider what was just shared before responding.

NO "CROSS TALK": Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations.

NO FIXING: We are not here to fix each other. Jesus does that part. Give encouragement; speak truth, and point to Jesus.

NO RESCUING: When people are sharing something deeply personal resist the temptation to rescue them by giving advice. This will often cause them to stop sharing.

SHARING: Be sensitive about the amount of time you share.

BE SELF-AWARE: Be self-aware of how you are personally effecting the environment through your words, actions, and non-verbal communication.

USE "I" STATEMENTS: It's easy to talk about the issues of others, but for our purposes, we want you to put yourself on the table. Try to use "I" statements rather than "them", "the church", "us", "we", etc.

CONFLICT: When conflict or sin issues arise, we want to make sure that we are honoring God and each other in the way we deal with these issues.

Small Group Evening Schedule:

10min - Hangout time

5min - Welcome, Opening Prayer, Group Guidelines, Announcements
(It is good to review the guidelines on the left once a month)

OPENING QUESTIONS:

Was there any specific thing that you connected with from the message this Sunday? What point made the most impact for you?

Is there anything you'd like to go deeper in today that you heard?

40min - **Scripture: Read Matthew 13:1-23**

Read the passage out loud together as a group. Perhaps have everyone or a few people read a couple of verses at a time through the passage. Pastor Tim unpacked a difficult passage in Hebrews 6 in his message about the possibility of rejecting salvation. Today, we are going to read Jesus' words about the condition of our own hearts and lives to make the message connect with our lives today. Read the parable and Jesus' explanation of it carefully.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

List all the different types of soil that were described in the parable.

Now use description words to explain what a person's life looks like who has a heart like each of these types of soil.

What does this passage say happens to those who reject the gospel?

What warning does Jesus give to us in this passage?

What can you do this week to keep the soil of your heart right?

READ: Hebrews 6:7-12

How do these words connect with the Matthew passage?

10min - Share prayer requests & pray.

(one person write requests and email or text to the rest of the group)
