

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Communion

These questions are for the **October 17, 2021** sermon, "Once For All." Please read the sermon passage (Hebrews 7:26-28) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

AS WE REFLECT UPON THE SUPREMACY OF JESUS CHRIST, NOTE . . .

1. The distinctive characteristics of our Lord. (26)
 - a. Jesus' high priestly role is "fitting."
 - b. Jesus accomplished his once-for-all sacrifice. He is holy (set apart), innocent (completely blameless), unstained (our 'spotless' lamb), separated from sinners (no sin found in him) and exalted (worshiped in heaven forever).
 - c. If there had been even the smallest defect, his sacrifice would have been insufficient.
2. The ultimate sacrifice of our Lord. (27)
 - a. Jesus needed no sacrifice for himself. He was completely without sin.
 - b. In the temple system, many priests constantly offered many sacrifices.
 - i. But Jesus, fulfilling the intent of the temple system, offered himself, once for all.
 - ii. Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice not FOR himself, but OF himself, and for us.
3. The permanent priesthood of our Lord. (28)
 - a. Jesus has now been made perfect by his work, suffering, death and resurrection.
 - b. He himself is our sacrifice and our complete and eternal peace with God (priest).

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Note the five characteristics of Jesus (holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners and worshiped in heaven forever). He died on the cross in our place. The Old Temple system could not ultimately save, and we certainly cannot save ourselves. Talk about how Jesus' willingness to die in your place fuels worship, love and devotion to him.
2. Based on #1, above: When we come to the communion table, we are extolling and treasuring Jesus Christ as our only means of relationship with God. Discuss this. How would you explain this to unbelieving friend? Why is the Lord's Table "so much more" than just a religious observance?
3. Based on #2, above: Jesus did not need a sacrifice because he had no sin. Yet he endured the shame of the cross, even considering it "joy" (Heb 12:2). He stayed to pay our sin debt out of love for his Father and love for us. Jesus loves you that much. Jesus pursued you. Jesus welcomes you. Jesus knows your worst sin but still loves you. Discuss.
4. Based on #3, above: Jesus is "made perfect" by setting God's glory on display through finishing the task that God set out for him. Another passage says that you will complete Christ's sufferings (Col 1:24). In this way, we are made perfect through righteous suffering (James 1:2-4). If Jesus suffered faithfully, we will suffer, and we can do it faithfully, too. There is no faithful Christian who is not called to suffer faithfully, and thus call attention to Jesus. Discuss.