

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class
FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

Hebrews 7:1-10

Remember, the “answers” provided below are not intended to be complete. They are to give you a bit of guidance on key elements to highlight in the discussion time and to help clarify the intent of some questions in case it wasn’t initially clear. Not every question has an “answer” provided. Consider the comments more as insight and guidance rather than right vs wrong answers.

Remember to ask follow up questions, such as “Explain that further,” or “Who else has an answer?” to prompt additional input from the class or “Where do you see that in the text?” to remind everyone to be getting their answers from the Scriptures.

❖ Opening Prayer (3 min)

❖ Discussion (52 min)

Read Hebrews 7:1-10 aloud.

1. What connection does the word “for” establish with the previous section?
 - a. It begins a lengthy explanation of Jesus’ role as a priest in the order of Melchizedek.
2. From where is the author of Hebrews picking up his argument regarding Melchizedek?
 - a. He began talking about Jesus being a priest in the order of Melchizedek back in 5:6-10, but he took a lengthy aside in 5:11-6:20 where he essentially warns his readers against becoming dull of hearing and falling away.
3. Recall, why is the author of Hebrews pointing his readers to consider Jesus’ Melchizedekian priesthood?
 - a. Since 2:14 Jesus’ high priesthood has been central to the author’s argument and exhortation. Considering Jesus’ high priesthood is meant as a means to cause us to persevere. Here he picks up his explanation of the importance of Jesus being a priest in the order of Melchizedek vs. the order of Levi.
4. How is Melchizedek described in vv. 1-3?
 - a. King of Salem, priest of the Most High God, he met and blessed Abraham, king of righteousness, king of peace, not having a biologically identifiable genealogy
5. What event is being referenced in v. 1?
 - a. Abraham defeating the kings that took Lot and rescuing him in Gen 14.
6. Read the account in Genesis 14:17-24. How is Melchizedek described there?
 - a. King of Salem, priest of the Most High God, he blessed Abraham, and Abraham gave him a tenth.
7. Compare the descriptions of Melchizedek in Gen 14 and Heb 7.
 - a. They’re essentially the same!

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8. What did Abraham give to Melchizedek? Why?
 - a. A tenth. Because he was great, and he blessed Abraham.

9. What comparison is made between Melchizedek and Jesus in v. 3? What is the author of Hebrews intending to communicate with this comparison?
 - a. The text says he was “made like the Son of God”
 - b. The eternal nature of the priesthood of both

10. What are we supposed to observe about Melchizedek according to v. 4?
 - a. His greatness

11. What is the author of Hebrews referencing and recognizing in v. 5?
 - a. The Levitical priests received a tithe from the people of Israel who were descendants of Abraham

12. What does the word “but” indicate at the beginning of v. 6?
 - a. A contrast

13. What contrast is the author making in v. 6?
 - a. Between the Levitical priests and Melchizedek – they received tithes from Abraham’s descendants, but Melchizedek received a tithe from Abraham himself

14. What statement is made in v. 7? How would this have struck a Hebrew audience?
 - a. Melchizedek was greater than Abraham
 - b. It would’ve been shocking

15. What contrast is being made in v. 8?
 - a. Mortal men – Levitical priests receiving tithes vs. one who “lives on” receiving tithes

16. What is the concluding argument of vv. 9-10?
 - a. Levi through Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek.

17. What is the significance of the argument of vv. 9-10?
 - a. Melchizedek is greater and his line of priests is greater than the Levitical priests

18. Read 7:11-28. How are vv. 1-10 a foundation for the argument of the rest of the chapter?
 - a. The rest of the chapter details the superiority of the Melchizedekian priesthood to the Levitical, and thus the superiority of the New Covenant to the Old

19. What is the main point being made in vv. 1-10?
 - a. Melchizedek is superior to Levi

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20. What is the main thing the author of Hebrews intended for his audience to take away from this section?
- a. Building the foundation for the argument of the rest of the chapter – Jesus' high priesthood is the only one to bring you to God
21. What is the main take away for us from this section?
- a. We can only come to God through Christ, there is no other mediator no matter how religious, historical etc.
22. How does the truth being communicated in this section impact us?
- a. Answers will vary – continue to draw near to God through Christ.
23. How should your day-to-day life be impacted by these verses?
- a. Answers will vary – seeing Christ as sufficient in the details of life, not running to anything else to make you acceptable to God.

❖ Closing Prayer (5 min)