

## **Lighthouse Groups: Hold Fast To Your Confession**

### **Scripture**

Hebrews 4:14–16

### **Context**

The author of Hebrews is writing to believers who were facing intense persecution and the temptation to abandon their faith to return to a "safer," more familiar life. They were struggling to keep going. This passage provides the remedy for their weariness by shifting their focus from their own endurance to the person and work of Jesus Christ. As Hebrews 2:17 reminds us, Jesus had to be made like His brothers in every respect so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest.

### **Sermon Recap**

When life gets hard, the temptation is to retreat from God and return to what is familiar. The author of Hebrews calls us to "hold fast to our confession"—to refuse to let go of our allegiance to Jesus. We can do this because Jesus is our Great High Priest: He represents us in heaven, He understands our struggles because He lived among us, and He provides the mercy and grace we need whenever we approach His throne.

### **Discussion Questions**

#### **1. The Weight of Confession**

The text commands us to "hold fast to our confession." In your own words, what does this confession actually entail? Is it merely agreeing with a list of facts, or is there more to it?

*Dig Deeper:* How do you distinguish between "right belief" and "loyal allegiance" in your own life?

#### **2. The High Priest's Role**

The sermon notes that the Old Testament high priest represented the nation before God. How does it change your perspective to know that Jesus is currently "representing" you before the Father in heaven?

*Dig Deeper:* If Jesus is your representative, why do we often feel like we have to defend or justify ourselves to God?

#### **3. Sympathy vs. Empathy**

The text says Jesus is able to "sympathize" with our weaknesses. How does the fact that Jesus was "tempted in every respect" change how you view Him when you are struggling with sin?

*Dig Deeper:* Does knowing Jesus was tempted make you more or less likely to bring your struggles to Him? Why?

#### **4. The Fear of Approach**

The sermon mentioned that sometimes we view Christ as a "bad boss" or "scornful parent"—distant and judgmental. Where do you think that view of God comes from in our hearts?

*Dig Deeper:* How does the reality of the cross dismantle the idea that God is "distant" from your pain?

#### **5. Mercy vs. Grace**

Verse 16 mentions both "mercy" and "grace." How would you explain the difference to someone who feels they have messed up too badly to approach God?

*Dig Deeper:* Which do you find harder to believe: that God has forgiven your past (mercy), or that He wants to equip your future (grace)?

#### **6. The Throne of Grace**

Why does the author call it a "throne of grace" rather than a "throne of judgment"? What does that tell us about God's current posture toward His people?

*Dig Deeper:* In what area of your life are you currently trying to "rule" yourself rather than submitting to God's grace?

#### **7. Running From vs. Running To**

The sermon says, "When you fail, Christ does not warn you to run from God. He invites you to run to God." Why is our instinct to run from God when we sin, and how do we break that habit?

*Dig Deeper:* What is the "hiding place" you run to when you feel guilty or weak?

### **8. Drawing Near**

The passage gives a clear instruction: "Draw near." Practically speaking, what does it look like for you to "draw near" to the throne of grace on a Tuesday afternoon when you are stressed, angry, or tempted?

*Dig Deeper:* What keeps you from drawing near to God in your most difficult moments?

### **Carry-It-Forward**

What's one thing God impressed on you tonight that you want to carry into this week?

### **Go Deeper**

- **Read Hebrews 9:24-28:** Reflect on how Christ's entry into heaven serves as the guarantee of our own standing before God.
- **Read Psalm 103:13-14:** Meditate on how God views our human frame and weakness. How does this align with the message from Hebrews?
- **Review:** [Hold Fast To Your Confession](#)