

HEBREWS

STUDY 06 – HEB 4:14-5:10



Read Hebrews 4:14-5:10

1. According to the passage, why should we hold firmly to the faith we profess?

(Hint: 4:13 may help you to answer this question)

Jesus as our great high priest means that we are unable to hide anything from him.

2. What do you think it means to 'hold firmly to the faith you profess'?

*It means we do not back down, or wander away from what we believe. In fact we are called to be **growing**.*

3. What do you think it means that Jesus is our great high priest?

It means he forms the link between us and God. It also means that he is the greatest / ultimate sacrifice.

4. What other characteristics do we learn of Jesus in his role as high priest?

We learn that he is one who can relate to us and to our weaknesses (v15).

5. Why is it that we can have confidence to approach the throne of grace?

Jesus as high priest provides the link between us and God.

- a. What do you think is meant by the idea of a 'throne of grace'?

It is the idea of the 'place' from which God rules and is able to forgive sins.

- b. What do we receive at the throne of grace?

We receive mercy, and help in our times of need.

6. What are some of the characteristics of a human priest? (5:1-3)

They are appointed by men; they are subject to weakness; they have to offer sacrifices for sins (first for their own, and then for other people).

7. How is it that someone becomes a high priest?

They are chosen by people to represent them before God.

a. How did Jesus and Aaron become high priests?

They were called by God to this position.

8. From your knowledge of the Bible, what might 5:7 be referring to?

Some possibilities may be – the Garden of Gethsemane; or possibly Jesus crying out whilst upon the cross. Note in particular here Jesus' reverent submission.

9. What does 5:9 mean when it says, 'and once made perfect he became the source of eternal salvation'? Is it saying that Jesus was previously not perfect?

Not at all!

10. What does this passage have to say about the function of priests today?

It is pretty clear that they are now no longer needed.

11. How do you think the comparison between Jesus and Aaron (5:4) encourages the Hebrew readers to hold onto the faith they profess?

They are encouraged to see that they no longer need to relate to God through priests and the OT system of law. Jesus is clearly the better option – we can go straight through him to the throne of grace.

12. How are *you* going at holding onto the faith you profess? Are you actually *growing* in your faith?

A chance for some personal reflection and application.

13. In what ways should we be encouraged by the fact that Jesus can sympathise with our weaknesses?