**Greater Than**

**Avoiding the Drift- Week #2**

**Small Group Notes**

**April 22 and 25, 2021**

**Introduction:**

**What is one personal goal you set for yourself this year? How have you done in meeting that goal? What have the greatest hindrances been in attaining this goal?**

**What are the greatest barriers or hindrances to our spiritual growth?**

When we think about spiritual growth, often we can allow things to distract us and impact the way that we seek our spiritual goals. As we read Hebrews 2, we are going to see what are some of the major influences that impact our spiritual growth.

**Discuss: Avoiding the Drift**

1. Be anchored in truth!

* Hebrews 1:3
* Anchor your life securely in the supremacy of Christ and you will avoid the drift!

Explain: If most of the first readers of Hebrews came to Christ from a Jewish background, that fact can help explain why the writer went to such lengths to characterize Jesus as superior to angels, therefore the writer of Hebrews presented a “lesser to greater” argument. Often in our lives we want to anchor our faith journey to things that are non-essentials or lesser than (which can become what we argue more about in churches) rather than the supremacy of Christ.

Ask:

**If you had to define the purpose of an anchor what would you say? How does anchoring your life to truth act similarly to an anchor for a boat?**

**What are situations that you face that challenge how you are anchored? What things (positive or negative) influence how we are anchored? Why?**

2. Raise the sail of obedience!

* Hebrews 2:3
* Complacency and convenience lead to spiritual drift but growth takes commitment!
* A great salvation leads to great commitments!
* We will either raise the sail of obedience or crash on the rocks from the drift!

Explain: “Drift away” in verse 1 means “slip past” or “float past.” Although “drift away” sounds passive, the verb’s position within the rest of the sentence implies a vigilant warning. The writer warned his readers about the danger of drifting away from participating in the gospel mission by standing on the sidelines as God’s plan for history moves forward.

Therefore, as one person says, “Passivity is not an option for Christians. If we’re passive, we’re put in danger of being pulled under.”

Ask:

**What situations potentially cause a person to drift when it comes to obeying Christ and holding to the gospel truth?**

**Two types of neglect are described in verses 2-3. How are they similar? How do the consequences of disobeying the Law compare with neglecting Christ?**

3. Hear the Warnings

Explain: One proof that God’s grace permeates salvation from start to finish is the fact that He warns believers. Warnings throughout the Bible are expressions of His grace. They help us to stay on the path of faith. They remind us that following Christ is serious business. We do not and cannot save ourselves. God gives us grace every step of the way, and we must persevere.

Ask:

**What type of warnings do we hear each day? (traffic warnings, recall warnings, COVID warnings) Have you ever ignored a warning? What was the result?**

**Have you ever thought about warnings being an expression of God’s grace? How do you see it in these verses?**

**Think about the warnings that you are experiencing in your life spiritually. What actions do you need to take to respond hear these warnings?**