**Hebrews- Greater Than**

**Tetelestai Indeed- Week #6**

**Small Group Notes**

**May 19 and 23, 2021**

**Introduction:**

What are some things that as a kid you remember looking forward to when you became a grown up? (For example driving, making money, etc)

What is the difference in being grown up and being mature?

In today’s discussion we are going to see the call to grow up and mature involves us understanding the security we have in Christ. While we do not earn our salvation, once we are saved, we begin to mature towards Christlikeness. Yet we continue to sin as believers and so we understand the call to push on towards growing and embracing the forgiveness of our sins through Jesus Christ!

**Discuss:**

1. Read Hebrews 5:11-14

* A fitting response to the goodness of the King is a step of faith.

Explain: Connecting back to last week’s sermon about Melchizedek, this was a teaching that the people were to accept about Jesus. The writer though see’s that their lack of understanding reflects how they were dull of hearing. Being **dull of hearing** is not a problem with the ears, but a problem with the heart. The hearer isn’t really interested in what God has to say. Not wanting to hear the Word of God points to a genuine spiritual problem.

Ask:

Why do we sometimes push away from the hard teachings in Scripture?

What are the times that it is ok for someone to be milk fed as a believer? What are the times that they need to move forward to spiritual meat? Where would you say you are? What are some things that can help you to move forward?

2. Read Hebrews 6:1-8

* There is nothing greater than a five-star meal.
* You can’t lose a free gift that you didn’t pay for.

Explain: People sometimes think they can grow in faith through right actions, such as attending another Bible study, listening to another sermon, or reading another inspirational blog. The writer of Hebrews called readers to trust Christ for their righteousness, not their actions or adherence to a code of conduct. The readers of Hebrews confessed to be believers. They were urged to show the reality of that confession. They were being warned about a form of Christianity that included a public profession of faith but lacked a continued devotion. When believers are fully committed to Christ, they are involved in a growing relationship with Him. Christianity requires a lifelong commitment to Christ.

Ask:

**What concerns did the writer of Hebrews express in verses 4-6? Can you relate those concerns to a modern-day context? What do you think the writer of Hebrews would be concerned about today?**

**What does the agricultural illustration (vv. 7-8) have to do with growing in faith? What comparison would you use to convey this truth to people today?**

3. Read Hebrews 6:9-12

* For those who have been satisfied, there is a worshipful response (Romans 12:1)

Explain: These encouraging words after the strong warning of [Hebrews 6:4-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/kjv/hebrews/6/4-8/s_1139004) should not be understood to mean that the warnings in the previous verses are not serious, or that the writer warned of impossible consequences. If anything, verse 9-12 shows how badly these struggling Christians needed *encouragement*. Their spiritual danger was not so much out of a calculated rebellion, but more because of a depressing discouragement. They need warning, but also needed encouragement.

Ask:

How do you define diligence? What are some areas in your life that show examples of diligence currently?

What are areas of your current spiritual walk that you **need** encouragement? What are current areas of your life that **give** you encouragement? How can your group help provide that encouragement?

4. Read Hebrews 6:13-20.

* You have been given a seat at the table, keep eating (John 19:28-30)

Explain: God came through for Abraham, even sealing His **promise** with an oath. In fact, **because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself**. This oath showed that God’s promises (like His character) are unchanging. Abraham’s trust in this was the gateway to the fulfillment of the promise. Therefore, when Jesus declared, “It is finished” it was the way that God continued to fulfill the promise and security of our salvation!

Ask:

What does it mean to you to know that your salvation is secure in Jesus Christ and not in yourself?

What is an area of doubt in your life currently? How do the promises of God help you to understand security in Jesus?