

2) THE ULTIMATE HOPE (HEBREWS 3-4)

WARM UP: For those who were there, how was it being back at church on Sunday?

READ HEBREWS 3

In this chapter the writer is saying, "Moses led God's people out of their slavery in Egypt, but they hardened their hearts and rebelled against God, so they couldn't enter his rest (i.e. the Promised Land). Jesus is greater than Moses, and he has led you out of your slavery to sin, so be careful not to harden your hearts and rebel against him, otherwise you won't be able to enter his rest either."

1. What does it mean to have a "hard" heart, in this context?

2. Why do you think a Christian might develop a hard heart?

3. Focusing on verses 1 and 12-14, what can we do to prevent our hearts from hardening?

READ HEBREWS 4:1-13

4. There are many biblical images of God's reward for His people, e.g. kingdom, glory, heaven. Why do you think "rest" is the focus here? What is the significance of this rest?

5. Verses 12-13 are very well-known verses, but they are an interesting fit in this context. What do they have to do with the verses that came before?

READ HEBREWS 4:14-16

6. After the warnings of chapters 3 and 4, these verses provide a good amount of comfort! What reassurance do you find in them?

ACTION: What has reading chapters 3 and 4 motivated you to do in your faith?

PRAY: Approach God's throne of grace with confidence, and ask him for mercy and grace for your needs today.