

# JESUS IS **BETTER**

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**Week 15: A Better Covenant**

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## **Introduction:**

Hebrews 7:1-22 (New Living Translation)

## **How Melchizedek Points to Jesus:**

Heb. 7:1-3

1. He was both a priest and a \_\_\_\_\_
2. His name and title \_\_\_\_\_ us of Jesus
3. His family history is \_\_\_\_\_ as a priest  
Heb. 7:11-14
4. He is greater than \_\_\_\_\_  
Heb. 7:4-7
5. He is superior to the Old \_\_\_\_\_  
Heb. 7:8-10
6. His priesthood is incompatible with the \_\_\_\_\_  
Heb. 7:14-17  
Hebrews 7:18-22

## **So What?**

\_\_\_\_\_ voices – Your freedom will make some religious people angry

\_\_\_\_\_ voices – You may be tempted to believe you need mixture

\_\_\_\_\_ voices – You will sometimes second-guess the power of grace

When you are struggling, or when you see someone else struggling...God's grace is never the culprit. It's the cure! Grace is not only His unmerited favor, but also His unmerited power to bear fruit as we rely upon Him!

## **SMALL GROUP Q'S**

### **Think:**

1. In Hebrews 7, we see the priesthood of Jesus being compared to the priesthood of a briefly-mentioned Old Testament character named Melchizedek. Review the six reasons we discussed as to why the two are being compared...(see message notes).
2. Why is it so significant for us to realize that Jesus is disqualified from being a High Priest under the Law of Moses? (see Heb. 7:11-12).
3. If we are not under the Law of Moses due to the completely unique priesthood of Jesus, but under Christ's New Covenant and His resulting "new command" to love one another (John 13:34), what practical significance does this have in the way we relate to God, ourselves and others on a daily basis? Take some time to talk this through as a group...

### **Feel:**

4. How does it affect you emotionally when you really ponder that there are hundreds of millions of people who are far from God? How does it impact you to think about the fact that one of the primary reasons for this is the lack of love perceived among self-professed Christians? Discuss...
5. To what degree does our understanding of God's love for us affect the way we love others? Have you ever admitted to the obvious connection between your view of God and your treatment of others? Explain...

### **Do:**

6. Jesus was sent as the ultimate priest – the ultimate "bridge" – between God and humanity. And then, Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so I also send you..." (Jn. 20:21). To what degree is your life increasingly becoming a "bridge" of connection for people to discover God?
7. Think about your average week in terms of the people whose lives intersect with yours. You interact with people at work, school and in a myriad of other ways. Could it be that you are not merely "stuck" here in Vacaville, but "sent" here? What might assist you in embracing that role as one sent by Jesus as He was sent by the Father?