

JESUS IS **BETTER**

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Week 1 – Jesus, The Better Voice

Introduction:

Hebrews is written to people who had traded the prestige of Temple worship and Jewish life for the humility of meeting in homes and suffering persecution for their faith in Christ. Most had lost their family connections, social status and financial stability. Understandably, they were tempted to go back to the old ways, and the central message of Hebrews is: Jesus is infinitely BETTER than anything you've left behind!

In Jesus, we have a Better Voice

Hebrews 1:1-3

The phrase “by His Son” in Greek is literally _____

The prophets spoke on behalf of God on rare occasions. Jesus spoke AS GOD on every occasion. He is not only the Son of God, but God the Son.

The word “radiance” = “brightness from a particular _____”

The phrase “exact representation” = *Greek: character* “exact imprint”

This is why Jesus would always say things like “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. I and the Father are one...”

So WHAT? (Life Application)

Jesus' better voice is always speaking into our circumstances, trials and temptations. For example, Jesus' better voice counters lesser voices like...

1. _____ – Jesus says, “Everything you truly need you already have in me, so trust me as your Provider...”
2. _____ – Jesus says, “The more you know me, the less you want that which doesn't belong to you...”
3. _____ – Jesus says, “Your value is not determined by comparison to others, but by the price I paid for you...”

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Personal Life:

1. Most of us can remember "voices" from our past that stirred various emotions, whether positive or negative. Share about the voice of someone who brought you joy or comfort in your past. It could be that of a parent, grandparent, sibling, close friend, TV personality, etc. Why do you think this voice brought such blessing to your life?

Ponderings:

2. When you consider the numerous voices of culture that are competing for your attention on a daily basis, why is Jesus' voice so critical to trust, cherish and obey?
3. The author of Hebrews is not discounting the voices of the Old Testament. They served a valid purpose for their time, and they continue to teach us things to this day. But the voice of Jesus is BETTER. How does this affect the way you think about Scripture? Your concept of God?
4. Read John 10:25-30 as a group. This passage emphasizes the better voice of Jesus as the one who comforts and guides His sheep.

In your own opinion, what are some of the most reassuring realities highlighted in this passage?

How is the Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit working together) highlighted in this passage?

5. As a believer, you have the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ in you. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would guide His disciples into all truth. To what extent do you experience the voice of Jesus guiding your life? How does His voice manifest most clearly to you?

Promptings:

6. Jesus' voice, offered to us through the four gospels and expounded upon by His chosen Apostles, is available to us 24/7/365. How are you learning to cultivate a listening ear? Do you spend time listening to Him? What does that look like for you? Are you eager to worship Him as He speaks? Obey Him when He directs? Explain...