

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Hebrews 6:1-12

Lesson 8

As we left off in chapter 5, the author accused his readers of being *dull of hearing*. He continues in chapter 6 to encourage them to not settle for *milk*, but to *go on to perfection*. This chapter contains a stern warning to those who would *fall away*. May you find in this chapter the boot you need to both keep from falling and press on to all that God has for you in our great High Priest, Jesus Christ.

DAYS ONE AND TWO: Read Hebrews 6:1-12

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

- a. Hebrews 6:1-12 has been divided into two sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-8

Verses 9-12

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in prior homework lessons: *God* and *Jesus*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Hebrews 6:1-12. Remember, as you mark these words, mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them.

3. Note the contrasting word *but* in verses 8,9, and 12. Choose one of the contrasts and record what two thoughts are being contrasted.

4. Using the chart titled *Jesus*, list a few things that Hebrews 6:1-12 reveals about Him.

DAY THREE: Read Hebrews 6:1-3

1. The word *therefore* in Hebrews 6:1 links these verses with Hebrews 5:11-14. Scan these verses and record the challenge in Hebrews 6:1 and the condition of some that inspired the challenge.

2. The author used the phrase *let us* in Hebrews 6:1, making five times he has used it. Record the instruction in each of the verses.

Hebrews 4:1

Hebrews 4:11

Hebrews 4:14

Hebrews 4:16

Hebrews 6:1

- a. Using the above verses, what are some of the author's concerns?
3. In last part of verse 1 and continuing through verse 2, the author lists six fundamental principles of Christianity, each having their counterpart in Judaism. List each of the six principles. We have started the list for you.

Repentance, faith,

- a. Challenge: Choose one or more of the principles above and write the basics of what the Bible teaches about them.
4. *Going on to perfection* (verse 1) indicates a challenge to move forward from the basic teachings of Christianity. What does a believer miss out on when she settles for the *basics*?
- a. Hebrews 5:13 refers to the believer *who partakes only of milk*, calling him *unskilled* and a *babe*. In contrast, he refers to those who partake of *solid food* as those who *are of full age and discern both good and evil*. What are some examples of spiritual *solid food*?

5. Record the short sentence of Hebrews 6:3.

a. This phrase acknowledges that it is not man's determination that enables us to grow spiritually. What do Philippians 2:13 and 4:13 teach us?

b. What can happen if we forget this?

DAY FOUR: Read Hebrews 6:4-8

1. These verses have been interpreted in many different ways. There have been believers who spend more time in controversy over them than in receiving them as a warning for their Christian walk. Remember, this chapter is addressed to immature believers. The point of this passage is to grow up spiritually. Don't get entangled in controversy over the meaning of these things, but heed the warning. We will briefly look at these verses in the homework and cover them more thoroughly in the lecture. Using verses 4 and 5, describe the people that the author is warning about.

2. The people referred to in this section were *once enlightened*, had *tasted the heavenly gift*, and had *become partakers of the Holy Spirit*. According to Hebrews 6:6, what is impossible if they *fall away*?

a. We believe that this cannot imply that believers can lose their salvation. What do the following verses teach us that verify this conclusion?

Hebrews 6:19

Hebrews 12:2

1.) Therefore, this could refer to those who had been exposed to the gospel, but never truly believed and received it, in this case, falling back in to the false requirements of Judaism - much like those referred to in 1 John 2:19. What does this verse say?

3. What are the two terrible effects of *falling away* in this manner?

- a. This reveals the severity of denying Jesus in this way. Now, a believer will not lose his salvation when he falls away; he will, however, suffer the consequences of his sin. But, just like those in Hebrews 6 were warned about falling away from the truths of the gospel, they too, *crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame*. How does any kind of *falling away* put Jesus to shame?

1.) What are some of the reasons you choose to obey God rather than sin?

- a.) Why should the possibility of bringing *shame* to Jesus be a deterrent when you are tempted?

4. *Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God. But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being cursed. In the end it will be burned* (Hebrews 6:7-8 NIV). Here, our attention is focused on the fruit born as a result of a relationship with Jesus Christ. If a person's life bears only thorns and thistles, they have no assurance of salvation, no matter what they profess. What does John 15:4-6 say about this?

5. The writer of Hebrews is exhorting and warning. Remember, his emphasis in this letter is to point to the sufficiency of Jesus, to encourage good works, but not *dead works* (Hebrews 6:1). Good works and dead works are determined by their source. If they are inspired by God, they are good; if they are inspired solely by man, they are dead. What does 1 Corinthians 3:11-15 add to this?

- a. What can one do to examine his own works now?

DAY FIVE: Read Hebrews 6:9-12

1. Hebrews 6:9 begins with the contrasting word *but*. The writer has been warning his readers of the severe consequences of *falling away*. What hope and encouragement does verse 9 offer?
 - a. *Salvation* is not confined to the promise of heaven. There are many blessings that *accompany salvation*, that are included in *salvation*. What are some of them?

2. Read Hebrews 6:10 and describe the *work and labor* that *God is not unjust to forget*.
 - a. What does this say to you about what is important as you *work and labor*?

3. Complete the following phrases from Hebrews 6:11,12 that should challenge every believer.
 - a. *each one of you*
 - b. *that you*
 - c. *but imitate those who*
 - 1.) We are to show *diligence* in doing these things. What does that mean to you?

4. Hebrews 11 gives us examples of those who *through faith and patience inherited the promise*. Scan through this chapter and choose one saint as an example. What characteristic would you like to *imitate*? Why?
 - a. How does imitating those who have active *faith* prevent one from becoming *sluggish*?

DAY SIX: Review Hebrews 6:1-12

1. What have you discovered about the danger of a stagnant relationship with Christ?
2. What joys have you found as you grow in the Lord?
3. What are the dangers of *falling away*?
4. In what way have you been challenged to check the motives of your *work and labor*?
5. Share one thing about this lesson that has inspired you to *go on to perfection* (grow in your maturity in Christ).

*Thus says the LORD:
“Stand in the ways and see,
And ask for the old paths, where the good way is,
And walk in it;
Then you will find rest for your souls.*

-Jeremiah 6:16