



Hebrews 1:1-4
Jesus is the Greatest
February 14th, 2016

Opening: What aspects of your life did you place in the greater than position of the equation—giving more importance than Jesus—this week?

Introduction: What is one of God’s primary activities in our lives? The Bible says, in the very beginning, God speaks. God’s Word goes out with creative, life giving qualities. Hebrews begins this prolonged sermon by saying that long ago God spoke, not only broadly and generally, but particularly and finally by the Son, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus’, God’s Word made flesh, comes into our lives and gently, but definitively, inviting us into a relationship where we listen to him as Lord of the Cosmos. Then he gives us the freedom to join him in that relationship, by bending our will to his, and trusting his great love.

In this text we are invited to hear the Word of Jesus and accept it as God’s final and definitive revelation to us. How does accepting Jesus as the greatest enable us to live at peace with him and one another?

Pray: Lord Jesus, help us to understand the significance of this passage. Show us how surrendering to you, is the only way to purpose and peace in our lives.

Read: Hebrews 1:1-4

Reflect:

1. The author of Hebrews begins by telling us that God reveals Himself to us through the word. Where in your life have you felt the closeness of this word spoken to you? What part or verse from Scripture is most precious to you?
2. Jesus’ word to us is a definitive word, meaning there is “absoluteness” to it. Sometimes that definitiveness contradicts our will. What area of your life is God’s will, God’s design contradicting your will? Where is God inviting you to submit and trust in him?
3. The writer of Hebrews assures “the congregation” that, when all is said and done, life does not belong to the tyrant, but the savior; life does not whimper out, but culminates in the Kingdom. Where in your life are you tempted to despair? Where can you claim the promise of this passage that Jesus is the heir of all things, and holds the universe in his power?
4. God is a relational God, meaning that God wants to be in constant communication with you. What part of your life do you need a conversation partner? James writes, “if any lacks wisdom, let them ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach” (James 1:5). Spend time throughout your day, while performing your daily tasks seeking and conversing with God. Listen to the Spirit’s gentle words of assurance and guidance. What are you learning in your prayer life?

Respond: Psalm 62 begins: For God alone my soul waits in silence. This week, find time each day to wait for God in silence. While you're doing this, think of practical ways in which you might place Jesus in front of the greater sign in your life's equation.

Pray: Lord Jesus, thank you for taking the place of first priority in our lives. Thank you for the invitation to trust you with all we have. Help us to remember that you are not only the sovereign God who holds creation by your word; but you are also the God who wants to be in conversation with us individually. May your Holy Spirit guide and lead us this week to deeper trust and more faithful obedience to you, the Word made flesh. Amen.