

THE BOOK OF
Hebrews

BIBLE STUDY GUIDES FOR SMALL GROUPS

RELATIONAL BIBLE STUDY SERIES

CREATED BY STEVE CASE

The Revelation of God

OPENING QUESTION

Who are you most like? Who is most like you?

READ Hebrews 1:1–14.

1. Rank (1-10) how effectively God has spoken in the past in these ways?

- A. — Creation.
- B. — Prophets.
- C. — Angel messengers.
- D. — Priests.
- E. — Audible voice, like on Mount Sinai.
- F. — Sanctuary services.
- G. — Sabbath and Sabbaths (7th day + annual feasts/festivals).
- H. — Torah.
- I. — Covenants and symbols of those covenants.
- J. — Other.

2. What amazes you the MOST about Jesus?

- A. God created the universe through Jesus.
- B. God communicated what he is like through Jesus.
- C. Jesus sits at the right hand of God in heaven.
- D. Jesus gives a total reflection of God.
- E. That Jesus came to earth.
- F. That Jesus died for us and because of us.
- G. That so many people believe Jesus is God.
- H. Christ's love for me.
- I. Other.

3. What does the “Father-Son” metaphor tell us about God and Jesus?

- A. There's a mother some place.
- B. God is older than Jesus.
- C. They are so much alike, and yet different.
- D. Jesus is inferior to God.
- E. God will one day be replaced by Jesus.
- F. It seems more like Greek mythology than Hebrew thought.
- G. Jesus might have some other siblings.
- H. They are like twins.
- I. Other.

4. What makes Jesus better than angels?

- A. Jesus is God.
- B. Angels worship Jesus.
- C. Jesus created the angels.
- D. Jesus created the universe and outlives it.
- E. Look at the seating chart in heaven.
- F. Jesus isn't better than angels since he became a human on earth.
- G. Angels carry out the requests and orders Jesus gives.
- H. Other.

5. What did Jesus reveal about God that wasn't already known?

- A. Love.
- B. Acceptance.
- C. Some of the religious rules really aren't religious.
- D. How personable God can be.
- E. Submission.
- F. God's interest in the whole world, not just the Hebrews.
- G. Favorite color and favorite food.
- H. A sense of humor.
- I. Other.

6. Why would Hebrew people have a problem with Jesus?

- A. Jesus didn't set up an earthly kingdom.
- B. Jesus didn't go through the Jewish school system.
- C. He wasn't normal in some ways; and was too normal in other ways.
- D. His avoidance of political power.
- E. Poor pedigree.
- F. His acceptance of unacceptable people.
- G. Jesus upset the entire religious system and leaders.
- H. Look at the kinds of people who followed him.
- I. Other.

7. In what ways has God spoken since Jesus was here 2,000 years ago?

8. What Scripture would you use to highlight the significance of Jesus?

Superman

OPENING QUESTION

Who is your favorite action hero? Why?

READ Hebrews 2:1–18.

1. What causes you to drift from the good news of salvation?

- A. I've heard it all my life.
- B. I don't even notice that I'm drifting.
- C. It doesn't affect me the way it used to.
- D. So often minor stuff becomes the major stuff.
- E. I haven't drifted from it.
- F. I'm too busy to give it the attention it demands.
- G. Religious people have disappointed or hurt me.
- H. Other.

2. How does Jesus compare to angels?

- A. Better—of course!
- B. For a time, Jesus was lower on the totem pole than angels.
- C. Jesus functions like an angel.
- D. Both are invisible.
- E. Jesus is busier than any angel.
- F. Jesus died; angels don't die.
- G. Jesus created the angels.
- H. Jesus is higher up the chain now, but not as high as he used to be.
- I. Other.

3. How do you relate to death?

- A. I try not to think about it much.
- B. I think about it too much.
- C. Jesus died so I don't have to die.
- D. It's certainly one of my fears.
- E. Not a big deal—it happens to everyone.
- F. As long as it comes late in life, it's okay.
- G. It tears me up.
- H. I fight it as much as I can.
- I. Other.

4. Jesus tasted death for everyone (vs. g). **This means:**

- A. Nobody on earth has to die.
- B. Nobody on earth will die.
- C. Nobody on earth will die “the second death.”
- D. I have no idea.
- E. Jesus paid the penalty for everyone.
- F. Jesus experienced total separation from God.
- G. Jesus accepted on himself the total accumulation of human sin.
- H. Other.

5. What role does Jesus play as our “faithful high priest” before God?

- A. Jesus pleads for mercy from God on our behalf.
- B. God demonstrated mercy; no need for Jesus to convince him.
- C. Jesus lets God know what it’s like to be human.
- D. Without being in heaven ourselves, we have representation.
- E. Jesus deals with lots of prayers from earth.
- F. We can count on Jesus to take care of our sins.
- G. Jesus connects God in heaven to us on earth.
- H. Other.

6. How was Jesus like you? How was Jesus not like you?

LIKE YOU

NOT LIKE YOU

- | | | |
|-------|-------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | God. |
| _____ | _____ | Human. |
| _____ | _____ | Lived on earth. |
| _____ | _____ | Lives in heavenly places. |
| _____ | _____ | Naturally selfish. |
| _____ | _____ | Overcame lots of adversity. |
| _____ | _____ | Access to heavenly beings. |
| _____ | _____ | Talked with God a lot. |
| _____ | _____ | Experienced temptation repeatedly. |
| _____ | _____ | Performed miracles. |
| _____ | _____ | Other. |

7. What’s a truth you’ve heard and won’t forget? What’s one you have?

8. How does Jesus help you when you’re tempted?

To Be(lieve) or Not To Be(lieve)

OPENING QUESTION

When you were a child, what was an experience that influenced you either to trust/believe or not to trust/believe?

READ Hebrews 3:1–18.

1. How do you fix your thoughts on Jesus (vs. 1)?

- A. Hang a picture of Jesus on a wall in my house or on the fridge.
- B. Be sure I have daily devotions.
- C. I really don't.
- D. Listen to Christian music.
- E. Look for God's actions in my world every day.
- F. Pray without ceasing.
- G. Get a brain transplant.
- H. Other.

2. Why do people rebel against God (vs. 8, 15)?

- A. It's just natural.
- B. People think they have a better idea than God.
- C. It's part of a maturing process.
- D. Because they are demon-possessed.
- E. To see whether or not God is serious about what he says.
- F. God is testing them.
- G. They lack God's perspective.
- H. God sets the bar too high.
- I. Other.

3. In what way are we "God's house" (vs. 6)?

- A. God created us.
- B. The Holy Spirit lives in us when we accept Jesus "into our hearts."
- C. Jesus is the foundation, but we're the structure.
- D. We're a remodeling project.
- E. It's a big, big house.
- F. People feel at home with God when they are with us.
- G. Each room seems to be different.
- H. The wonderful things in our life are what God is doing.
- I. Other.

4. How do you encourage others daily (vs. 13)?

- A. I purposely affirm people on a regular basis.
- B. I'm not that kind of person.
- C. I look for the best in others and then say something about it.
- D. I have some great friends so it's not that hard.
- E. Putting it on my daily checklist helps.
- F. By reflecting on my own blessings, I'm able to encourage others.
- G. I listen a lot.
- H. Random acts of kindness.
- I. Other.

5. What would cause you to have an "unbelieving heart" (vs. 12)?

- A. Lack of evidence.
- B. Growing up in an unbelieving environment.
- C. Science and the scientific method.
- D. Not able to feel or sense God.
- E. A bad experience.
- F. Questions—I'm skeptical.
- G. When I pray and nothing seems to happen.
- H. Other.

6. How do you continue to hold a conviction firmly to the very end (vs. 14)?

- A. I'm stubborn.
- B. Make the conviction a strong one at the start.
- C. Re-live the conviction periodically.
- D. Practice spiritual disciplines on a regular basis.
- E. Eliminate anything that would question my conviction.
- F. Make additional commitments that reinforce the original one.
- G. Hang out only with people who share my convictions.
- H. Act on the conviction so it becomes my identity.
- I. Other.

7. When and where do you hear God's voice (vs. 7)?

8. What tilts the scales for you either toward belief or toward unbelief?

Rest Stop

OPENING QUESTION

Describe a time you stopped for some significant rest.

READ Hebrews 4:1–16.

1. What is the promise of entering God's rest (vs. 1)?

- A. Moving to Israel today.
- B. Going to heaven.
- C. Having heaven in your heart.
- D. Retirement.
- E. Placing one's faith in God.
- F. Taking a time out.
- G. Worshiping on the right day of the week.
- H. Other.

2. Why do people not enter God's rest?

- A. It's hard.
- B. It's too simple.
- C. We're accustomed to working for everything we get.
- D. God gets angry and denies entrance into his rest.
- E. If you don't worship on the 7th day of the week, you miss it.
- F. It seems more responsible to work your way there.
- G. A refusal to take a true Sabbath each week.
- H. Some people are simply too busy to rest.
- I. Other.

3. What makes Sabbath as the 7th day so significant?

- A. God set it up that way.
- B. As long as you have one day set aside, that's what really matters.
- C. This demonstrates obedience to God.
- D. It symbolizes trusting God in contrast to working your way to heaven.
- E. This will be the final test in the history of this world.
- F. People feel at home with God when they are with us.
- G. The 7th day Sabbath identifies God's people, replacing circumcision.
- H. So few people keep the 7th day holy.
- I. Other.

4. What temptations did Jesus face compared to you?

- A. All the same ones.
- B. Most of the same ones, such as . . .
- C. Jesus had access to supernatural power and I don't.
- D. Jesus wasn't born naturally selfish like I was.
- E. This is like comparing apples with oranges.
- F. Christ's temptations were more frequent and more intense.
- G. The temptation to save one's self.
- H. Other.

5. What does the Word of God expose in you?

- A. Secrets that nobody else knows.
- B. Things I've been blind to previously.
- C. My trust in God.
- D. My hypocrisy.
- E. The motives behind the actions I show to others.
- F. The thoughts I keep to myself.
- G. The things I should do, but I don't.
- H. Other

6. How do you approach God's throne (vs. 16)? Why?

- A. Timidly.
- B. Boldly.
- C. Full of guilt.
- D. Full of worship.
- E. Fearfully.
- F. Combatively.
- G. Embarrassed.
- H. I don't.
- I. Other.

7. How would you describe the Sabbath rest waiting for the people of God (vs. 9)?

8. What does Jesus do as your high priest? What difference does that make?

Just Like You, Just for You

OPENING QUESTION

When have you received a favor because of somebody else (not because of you)?

READ Hebrews 5:1—14.

1. Who would you choose to represent you before God?

- A. One of my parents.
- B. Jesus.
- C. I'll represent myself.
- D. Satan.
- E. My best friend.
- F. Please have my pastor represent me.
- G. The best attorney money can buy.
- H. Other.

2. What sacrifices *(vs. 1)* would be necessary for you to connect to God?

- A. The blood of a lamb.
- B. The blood of THE Lamb.
- C. The blood of a goat.
- D. Deny myself.
- E. Time.
- F. One of my addictions (sports, shopping, work, volunteering, other).
- G. My reputation.
- H. Money.
- I. Other.

3. What gifts *(vs. 1)* would you give to God?

- A. My youthful years.
- B. My retirement years.
- C. Unleavened bread.
- D. A stylish outfit to wear.
- E. A bouquet of flowers.
- F. I'd post a picture of him on social media.
- G. My family or friends.
- H. My heart (whatever that means).
- I. Other.

4. How does a person become a high priest?

- A. You have to be born into the right family.
- B. It helps if you're Jewish.
- C. You have to be good—very good.
- D. God chooses you.
- E. You get elected to the position.
- F. You have to be male, and your dad has to die.
- G. Anyone who is a follower of Jesus becomes a high priest.
- H. Other.

5. What did Jesus go through for you? Are you willing to do the same for him?

- A. Hell.
- B. A wild ride through life.
- C. Adoration from the masses.
- D. Rejection by the masses.
- E. Investing in low-level disciples.
- F. Living most of one's life in obscurity.
- G. A short life (persecution, suffering, death).
- H. Other.

6. How long have you been a Christian?

- A. My whole life.
- B. I'm not sure that I am.
- C. Less than a year.
- D. Most of the time, but with little passion.
- E. Ever since a specific moment when I made the decision.
- F. I'm not sure, because it keeps changing.
- G. Ever since I started going to church.
- H. Other.

7. What's the difference between staying alive spiritually and growing spiritually?

8. What are some characteristics of those who are spiritually mature?

Grow Up

OPENING QUESTION

What's a childhood game you've outgrown? What's one you haven't?

READ Hebrews 6:1–20.

1. What would you consider to be “the basics” of Christianity?

- A. Jesus.
- B. Forgiveness.
- C. Placing one's faith in God.
- D. Baptism.
- E. Stop doing bad stuff.
- F. The doctrines of the church.
- G. Developing consistent devotional practices.
- H. Other.

2. What is involved in being more mature as a follower of Jesus?

- A. Enduring suffering with patience and hope.
- B. Overcoming the temptations of power and control.
- C. Learning more about the Bible.
- D. Forgiving others 70 x 7.
- E. Developing an ear to listen to God when praying.
- F. How you relate to the church.
- G. The fruit of the Spirit.
- H. Getting older.
- I. Other.

3. What causes spiritual dullness and indifference (vs. 12)?

- A. A reluctance to take risks for God.
- B. Gradually blending in with the world.
- C. Being so busy for God that you don't spend time with God.
- D. Controversy or bickering in the church.
- E. A lack of faith, hope, and love.
- F. I don't know and I don't care.
- G. A loss of wonder when it comes to God.
- H. Insulating one's self from the hurt and pain in this world.
- I. Other.

4. How do you relate to Abraham waiting patiently for God's promise?

- A. Abraham didn't wait.
- B. Abraham received repeated promises.
- C. Things didn't move nearly as fast as Abraham expected.
- D. Abraham had way more faith than I ever will have.
- E. I find it easy to believe God because . . .
- F. I sometimes take things into my own hands.
- G. I wouldn't want to be Isaac.
- H. I have received so much from God, such as . . .
- I. Other.

5. What is God's promise? What is God's oath (vs. 18)?

- A. Eternal life; Scripture.
- B. God's future; God's past.
- C. Forgiveness; Christ's death.
- D. The 2nd Coming of Christ; the 1st Coming of Christ.
- E. The Holy Spirit in the lives of believers; the Day of Pentecost.
- F. Be with his people; the history of God's activities in the Bible.
- G. God's promise and oath are the same thing.
- H. Other.

6. What does it mean to be led through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary (vs. 19)?

- A. I have no idea.
- B. It means you're part of God's inner circle.
- C. You are directly in the presence of God.
- D. Jesus must be leading you.
- E. It has something to do with the anti-typical Day of Atonement.
- F. Exposure and access to God's holiness.
- G. Spiritual growth.
- H. Other.

7. How can a person fully committed to Jesus later turn away from him?

8. What does "faith and patience" look like (vs. 12)?

High, Higher, Highest

OPENING QUESTION

What was your “security item” (blanket, stuffed animal, etc.) when you were a small child?

READ Hebrews 7:1—28.

1. What is the role of a priest?

- A. Receive tithe.
- B. Wear religious clothing.
- C. Pray for you.
- D. Connect God to people.
- E. Connect people to God.
- F. Serve as a judge.
- G. Function as a king.
- H. Offer sacrifices.
- I. Other.

2. Who was Melchizedek?

- A. Who knows?
- B. Priest of Salem.
- C. King of Salem.
- D. A mighty warrior.
- E. A beggar.
- F. King of Sodom.
- G. Someone who served Abram, and whom Abram revered.
- H. Other.

3. What did it take to become a priest among the Hebrews?

- A. You had to be born into the right tribe.
- B. Only males need apply.
- C. Good looks helped.
- D. You must be at least 40 years of age.
- E. Being a Levite wasn't enough; you had to be in Aaron's family.
- F. A strong connection with Yahweh.
- G. You needed to like eating kosher meat.
- H. Lots of practice killing animals.
- I. Other.

4. What are the implications of Jesus being compared to Melchizedek when we know so little about Melchizedek?

- A. We don't know as much about Jesus as we might have thought.
- B. The priesthood set up under Aaron isn't the best view of Jesus.
- C. We should be sure to pay tithe.
- D. Jesus is the king of peace.
- E. Jesus is eternal.
- F. Being from the tribe of Levi no longer matters.
- G. There are "non-Israelites" who give us a view of God.
- H. None of this "Melchizedek" stuff makes any sense to me.
- I. Other.

5. Why did Abraham give tithe to Melchizedek?

- A. Melchizedek needed it.
- B. Abraham needed to give it.
- C. Melchizedek represented Yahweh to Abraham.
- D. Abraham had too much stuff, and this was a good way to unload it.
- E. To be a good example to all who were watching.
- F. Abraham did this kind of thing lots of times.
- G. This was Abraham's Thanksgiving offering for recovering all his stuff.
- H. Other.

6. Why did God set up the Levitical priesthood when it was "weak and useless" (vs. 18)?

- A. It wasn't weak and useless when God first set it up.
- B. The Levitical priesthood was a foil for Christ's awesome priesthood.
- C. It was the best that could be done with slaves in the desert.
- D. The Levitical priesthood started good, but turned inferior.
- E. It only takes one bad apple to spoil the whole bunch.
- F. It taught people a lot, even though it wasn't enough.
- G. People were just too messed up to benefit from it.
- H. Other.

7. Why would you need a priest? Who is your priest?

8. What do you like about Jesus being your high priest?

It Can't Get Any Better

OPENING QUESTION

What is something good you've had that got replaced with something even better?

READ Hebrews 8:1–13.

1. What is the significance of Jesus sitting at God's right hand?

- A. It's the main point of this chapter.
- B. He's not on earth.
- C. He's at the controls of the center of the universe.
- D. God must not be left-handed.
- E. Jesus and God are very tight.
- F. It is the place of highest honor in heaven.
- G. He's not "standing" in judgment, like the "Son of Man" in *Daniel 7*.
- H. It matches *Acts 7:55-56*.
- I. Other.

2. Is there a heavenly sanctuary?

- A. Yes.
- B. No.
- C. I don't know.
- D. I don't care.
- E. It doesn't really matter.
- F. It does really matter.
- G. Only for Seventh-day Adventists.
- H. Other.

3. What does the heavenly sanctuary look like?

- A. Exactly like the earthly sanctuary.
- B. Big; really big.
- C. An altar of burnt offering, candlestick, table of showbread—the works.
- D. More like Solomon's temple than the wilderness tent.
- E. Like Herod's temple—the Jerusalem temple Jesus cleansed.
- F. Exactly like the artist's pictures I've seen, at least in my mind.
- G. Just like my home church.
- H. What difference does it make?
- I. Other.

4. What is it about Christ's ministry that makes it superior to the earthly priests' ministry?

- A. Jesus is God while the human priests aren't.
- B. It's in heaven instead of on earth.
- C. It's based on Melchizedek instead of on Aaron.
- D. The earthly temple doesn't even exist anymore.
- E. Jesus died for us; none of the priests ever did that.
- F. A bigger gift and sacrifice comes from Jesus.
- G. The earthly priests messed up; Christ didn't.
- H. Christ never went to seminary.
- I. Other.

5. What is the "Old Covenant"?

- A. It's based on the Old Testament.
- B. God's promise to never again destroy the earth with a flood of water.
- C. Salvation comes from obedience to the Law.
- D. Abraham would be the father of God's people and bless everyone.
- E. God's first covenant.
- F. The 10 commandments given on Mt. Sinai.
- G. Salvation comes by faith in Jesus.
- H. Other.

6. What is the "New Covenant"?

- A. It's based on the New Testament (*Hebrews 8:8-12*).
- B. It's based on the Old Testament (*Jeremiah 31:31-34*).
- C. Hidden until Jesus arrived.
- D. Based on God's law.
- E. Obedience to God's laws.
- F. God's law is put into our hearts.
- G. It's based on grace; not law.
- H. Other.

7. What is God's covenant with you right now?

8. What is your covenant with God right now?

A Good Example or a Bad Example?

OPENING QUESTION

When it comes to understanding or appreciating Jesus, what is a metaphor you like to use (like lamb, lion, high priest, bread & wine, water, light, etc.)?

READ Hebrews 9:1–28.

1. What do you know about the Old Testament sanctuary services?

- A. Not much.
- B. More than most people want to know.
- C. I know about the furniture.
- D. I get confused about all of the different services and rituals.
- E. There was lots of blood.
- F. To me, it seems way too complicated.
- G. It doesn't matter to me because I'm a New Testament Christian.
- H. It provides lots of insights about God and how we relate to him.
- I. Other.

2. Was the altar of incense in the Holy Place or the Most Holy Place?

- A. The Holy Place (see *Exodus 30:6*).
- B. The Most Holy Place (see *Hebrews 9:3-4*).
- C. There's a discrepancy.
- D. Who cares?
- E. One of these passages must be wrong.
- F. It doesn't really matter.
- G. It matters only for Seventh-day Adventists.
- H. The smoke from the Holy Place wafted into the Most Holy Place.
- I. Other.

3. The ark contained the 10 commandments, Aaron's rod that budded, and a pot of manna. What are the sacred pieces in your life?

- A. I don't have any (because of the 2nd commandment—*Exodus 20:4-6*).
- B. I have too many to count or catalogue.
- C. There is a special place/time where/when I worship.
- D. The sanctuary at the church.
- E. My Bible.
- F. Certain people in my life.
- G. Something special just for me, namely _____.
- H. Other.

4. What is the significance of the two angels with wings spread over the top of the mercy seat (vs. 5)?

- A. Two angels symbolize two witnesses.
- B. Angels provide protection for God.
- C. Angels provide protection for us.
- D. God's mercy expands beyond God and includes God's kingdom.
- E. The Bible doesn't really say.
- F. Those are very large angels.
- G. God is never alone.
- H. Other.

5. What's the difference between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place?

- A. Jesus spent a lot of time in one, and His Father was in the other one.
- B. The difference is mainly symbolic, not physical.
- C. Size and distance.
- D. The furniture in each was different.
- E. I just don't get it.
- F. The word "Most."
- G. Holy Place—daily (regular); Most Holy Place—yearly (one time).
- H. Other.

6. What does it mean: "Christ is our mediator of a new covenant" (vs. 15)?

- A. Christ wasn't the mediator of the old covenant.
- B. We still need a mediator.
- C. God would smite us dead if Christ wasn't mediating on our behalf.
- D. *Romans 8:31-39* explains this quite well.
- E. Christ prepares us for heaven.
- F. God is doing all he can to restore us to him.
- G. We've got a back-up if we ever need it.
- H. Other.

7. How does purification (vs. 14) change your worship?

8. What is your paraphrase of verse 28?

Facing God

OPENING QUESTION

How did you relate to your principal in elementary school?

READ Hebrews 10:1–39.

- 1. What are some habits or spiritual practices you've done, but they might be only a shadow of something better?**
 - A. Prayers before meals or before going to bed.
 - B. Going to church.
 - C. Reading Scripture without getting anything out of it.
 - D. Fasting from something.
 - E. Studying the Sabbath School lesson.
 - F. Giving tithes and offerings.
 - G. Service activities.
 - H. Other.

- 2. How is it that Christ established the new covenant with his death when Jeremiah wrote about it 600 years before Christ?**
 - A. Jeremiah wrote about it, but it didn't take effect until Christ's death.
 - B. Jeremiah didn't write about it; it's found in the book of Hebrews.
 - C. It didn't work in Jeremiah's time.
 - D. It still isn't working today.
 - E. Christ's death covers people who lived before and after he was here.
 - F. This is just confusing; forget about it.
 - G. The entire Old Testament has new meaning because of Jesus.
 - H. Other.

- 3. What is your confidence level for facing God right now?**
 - A. I'm willing to take my chances.
 - B. No way I'd try that.
 - C. I have confidence because of Jesus.
 - D. I have confidence because of what I've read in the Bible.
 - E. I'm loaded with unwavering hope.
 - F. My conscience is clear.
 - G. I'd be willing to face God now if _____.
 - H. Other.

4. “Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together” (vs. 25) applies to:

- A. Attending church.
- B. Attending Sabbath School.
- C. Small group Bible study.
- D. Any spiritual gathering.
- E. Anything that takes place on Sabbath.
- F. A meaningful gathering at Starbucks.
- G. Special dates.
- H. Discipline yourself to show up on a regular basis.
- I. Other.

5. What are you willing to go through for Jesus?

- A. Anything.
- B. Anything as long as it's not inconvenient.
- C. Anything as long as it's not uncomfortable.
- D. Anything as long as it's safe.
- E. Anything that's reasonable.
- F. It depends on how much he does for me.
- G. Anything except for my family's suffering.
- H. Other.

6. To what extent does your faith assure you of your salvation?

- A. I never even think about it.
- B. You can't really know for sure until it's all over.
- C. People who have the assurance of salvation simply trust Jesus.
- D. People who have the assurance of salvation are fooling themselves.
- E. I've chosen to place my faith in God's promises of salvation for me.
- F. I have to return to *1 John 5:11-13* periodically.
- G. As long as my faith is strong, so is my assurance of salvation.
- H. Other.

7. What is something you still feel guilty about even though you've been forgiven? Why does the guilt persist?

8. In what ways do you encourage others to “outbursts of love and good deeds” (vs. 24 NLT 1996; how does your version render it)?

Hall of Faith

OPENING QUESTION

Some say, “The only things for certain are death and taxes.” What would you add to this list?

READ Hebrews 11:1–39.

1. What is the relationship between faith and facts?

- A. Faith requires facts.
- B. Facts require faith.
- C. There’s no relationship between them.
- D. One changes; the other remains constant.
- E. They’re cousins, but not siblings.
- F. Faith is based on feelings; facts are based on information.
- G. One precedes the other.
- H. Other.

2. Rank the following 10 items from 1 (most faith needed) to 10

- _____ Creation
- _____ Worldwide flood
- _____ Incarnation (God came to earth in the form of a human)
- _____ Resurrection
- _____ Evolution
- _____ Forgiveness
- _____ The Trinity
- _____ Christ’s Second Coming
- _____ Marriage
- _____ Other: _____

3. Why is it impossible to please God without faith (vs. 6)?

- A. Because that’s what the Bible says.
- B. You’ve gotta take a chance with God.
- C. Relationships require trust.
- D. God loves it when people put themselves on the line for God.
- E. God is pleased with us even if we don’t have any faith.
- F. There has to be give and take.
- G. After God got burned by Satan, faith became super important to him.
- H. Other.

4. Who of the following had the greatest amount of faith?

- A. Barak (*Judges 4:4-24*).
- B. Samson (*Judges 13-16*).
- C. Jephthah (*Judges 11:1-40*).
- D. Ehud (*Judges 3:12-30*).
- E. Ruth (*Ruth 1-4*).
- F. Jonah (*Jonah 1-4*).
- G. Jochebed (*Exodus 2:1-10*).
- H. Zephaniah (*Zephaniah 1-3*).

5. When would it be easiest to accept Jesus as the Messiah?

- A. In Old Testament times.
- B. After Christ's birth but before his earthly ministry.
- C. During Christ's ministry on earth.
- D. When Jesus was on the cross.
- E. After the resurrection.
- F. More than 1,000 years after Jesus had been on earth.
- G. When I'm in a desperate situation.
- H. Other.

6. Why do you stick with Jesus?

- A. I've got no better place to go.
- B. Because of what I've found in Scripture.
- C. Because of what I've experienced so far in my life.
- D. It's what I've grown up with.
- E. It's quite the ride!
- F. The rewards (check which apply): _____ NOW _____ LATER.
- G. I'd be afraid to not do so.
- H. Other.

7. Who are your favorite Old Testament heroes of faith? New Testament favorites? Who is living right now that you include as your faith heroes?

8. What do you need faith for right now?

No Excuses

OPENING QUESTION

As a child, what were good excuses you used to get out of chores?

READ Hebrews 12:1—29.

1. What witnesses are surrounding you?

- A. Hebrews 11.
- B. Early Adventist pioneers.
- C. I'm in a witness protection program.
- D. My family.
- E. I hear a lot of voices.
- F. My church family.
- G. My work or school.
- H. Lots of angels.
- I. Other.

2. What are the sins that slow down your race of faith?

- A. Busyness.
- B. My work or my school.
- C. Gossip.
- D. Material goods.
- E. I don't want to talk about it.
- F. Comparing myself with others.
- G. Not being proactive.
- H. Ego.
- I. Other.

3. How do you “keep your eyes on Jesus” (vs. 2)?

- A. Spending time in daily devotions.
- B. It's kind of hard when He's not visible.
- C. I actually find it hard to not see Him.
- D. I take time to reflect on Christ's death and resurrection.
- E. I have a picture of Jesus in my house.
- F. There's an app on my device that helps me.
- G. Consider the lives of faithful people and what Jesus did for them.
- H. By answering the question, “Where did I see Jesus today?”
- I. Other.

4. How do you relate to discipline?

- A. Love it.
- B. Hate it.
- C. Avoid it.
- D. I prefer to give it rather than receive it.
- E. I appreciate it in certain areas of my life, but not other areas.
- F. I wouldn't change if it weren't for discipline.
- G. It hurts more than it helps.
- H. It helps more than it hurts.
- I. Other.

5. What has been your biggest “come to Jesus” moment so far?

- A. A personal crisis.
- B. A family crisis.
- C. My job/school.
- D. Losing my job or changing schools.
- E. God talking to me directly.
- F. Calling out to God and getting no response.
- G. I'd rather not say.
- H. Other.

6. What does “our God is a consuming fire” mean (vs. 29)?

- A. If you play with fire, you'll get burned.
- B. God purifies his people like heating up gold to remove the dross.
- C. Those who cling to sin will be consumed in God's presence.
- D. There's going to be a lake of fire to eliminate sin at the end of the world.
- E. Ask Nebuchadnezzar (*Daniel 3:15-28*).
- F. It seemed that way on Mt. Sinai (*Exodus 19:16-18*).
- G. It seemed that way on Mt. Carmel (*1 Kings 18:36-40*).
- H. Other.

7. What are some of the ways God disciplines you?

8. What is your plan for your spiritual growth and spiritual workouts?

Famous Last Words

OPENING QUESTION

What bedtime rituals did you have as a child?

READ Hebrews 13:1–25.

1. What does “hospitality to strangers” look like to you?

- A. The proverbial homeless person with the sign on the side of the road.
- B. Angels.
- C. Taking care of family members in need.
- D. Donating to sponsor a child.
- E. Volunteering at community services.
- F. Paying taxes.
- G. Helping with a short-term mission trip.
- H. Handouts.
- I. Other.

2. What do you do about those in prison?

- A. Visit them.
- B. Give them Bible studies.
- C. Nothing.
- D. Expect those paid to take of them to actually take care of them.
- E. Seek to set them free (the innocent ones).
- F. Vote for those who will make our streets safe.
- G. Suffer with them.
- H. Rejoice when church members get out of prison.
- I. Other.

3. What can humans (or life circumstances) do to scare you, in spite of Christ’s promises to take care of you?

- A. Threaten my life.
- B. Threaten my family.
- C. Take away my livelihood.
- D. Ruin my reputation.
- E. Cheat me.
- F. Question my salvation.
- G. Make me look bad compared to them.
- H. Other.

4. What disgrace are you willing to bear for Jesus?

- A. I would die for him (outside the camp).
- B. I can say that I'd die for him; but I've never really been tested on that.
- C. Loss of friends.
- D. Be labeled as a religious extremist.
- E. Poverty.
- F. Prison.
- G. My family disowning me.
- H. Other.

5. What sacrifices does God desire from us now?

- A. Praise.
- B. Animals, preferably perfect ones.
- C. Humility in action.
- D. Donations galore.
- E. Time with Him.
- F. More volunteering at church.
- G. Helping people outside of church.
- H. Other.

6. Which of the following will you do within the next month?

- A. Obey your spiritual leaders.
- B. Visit someone in jail.
- C. Do whatever the pastor tells you to do.
- D. Volunteer at the church.
- E. Give gifts to people you don't even know.
- F. Pray for your spiritual leaders.
- G. Take steps to not be seduced by money.
- H. Other.

7. Jesus is "the same today, yesterday, and forever," but how has your understanding of Jesus changed over time?

8. What's a key idea or sentence from the book of Hebrews you would share with others?

