



Inviting Grace

WEEK 5

WARM-UP

- What's one thing you can confidently do? Tell us about it.
- Do you have people with whom you share your deepest secrets? How did you reach that level of trust?
- Have you ever been in an argument that needed a mediator? What happened?

WORD *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.* **HEBREWS 4:16**

No one is worthy to draw near to the throne of the King of kings, no matter what we do or bring. But because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, our *High Priest*, who mediates between us and God, we can, *with confidence, draw near to the throne of grace*. At His throne, we receive mercy instead of punishment and find *grace to help in time of need*. Today, let us take a closer look at where this confidence comes from.

1 | We can't hide anything from God.

¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

HEBREWS 4:12,13

God is the one to whom all creatures must give account. But, as our Creator, He knows our *thoughts and intentions*. Because God knows everything, we can't try to prove ourselves or hide anything from Him. And through His Word, He helps us discern the thoughts and intentions of our heart. How does God's Word reveal what's really going on in your heart and mind?

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2 | Jesus empathizes with us.

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. **HEBREWS 4:14,15**

A priest is one who mediates between man and God. *Jesus, the Son of God*, is our High Priest. As we read the word of God, especially the accounts about Jesus, we see how He was tempted *in every respect as we are, yet without sin*. This is why Jesus is the perfect mediator—He knows and understands what we go through and how we feel, and He remained sinless and triumphed over every temptation.

What does 1 Peter 2:4,5 say about our access to God through Jesus Christ?

3 | We can confidently draw near to God's throne of grace.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

HEBREWS 4:16

Jesus, our High Priest, does not only mediate between us and God; He also sacrificed Himself for us so our sins could be forgiven and we could be right with God. Through Him, we can be confident to *draw near to the throne of grace* to receive His mercy and find *grace to help in time of need*. These are the privileges we have in Christ: We are invited to a relationship with God and we can confidently approach His throne of grace. How have you made use of these privileges?

APPLICATION

- How do you usually approach God? Read and meditate on Hebrews 4:12–16. How can you grow more in and live out the confidence that we have in Jesus every day?
- Do you continuously read and meditate on the Word of God to grow in your understanding of His grace? What's something you can do starting this week to make reading the Word a stronger habit?

- How can you encourage your friends and family to receive the grace that God freely gives to us through Jesus? Commit to share your testimony and preach the gospel with confidence to them this week.

PRAYER

- Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to save us so we can confidently draw near to His throne of grace.
- Ask God to show you His will and speak to you as you read His Word every day. Pray that you will depend more on His grace and not on your own capabilities.
- Pray for open doors among your family and friends and boldness to share more about Jesus and the grace that He freely gives.

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