

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

Feb 2014

## *Hebrews*

The Preeminence of Jesus Christ

### **Lesson #5: Resting With the Word**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

What is your favorite way to spend the Sabbath?

#### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION**

##### **Read Hebrews 4:1-11**

*Note: Keep in mind that many of the Hebrews were Jews that were considering going back to their old ways – trusting works and following rules rather than living by faith and the New Covenant.*

1. What is “God’s rest?” Eph 1:13-14
2. What did it mean to the Israelites wandering in the desert?
3. If Adam and Eve were originally made to trust (rest in) God, what barrier did Jesus remove that provided that relationship again?
4. What role does faith play in the “rest”-oration with God? Num 21:8
5. Most of the chosen people did not enter the Promised Land. Do you think that this means that God has withdrawn his promises to them as a nation? Why? Dt 5:33- 6:2; 8:6-14; Acts 1:6

*Note: Many theologians think the Promised Land refers to rest and victory (over sin) in the Christian life rather than salvation. Others feel that Israel failed to enter Canaan because of unbelief so they missed the rest provided by a relationship with God (salvation).*

##### **Read Hebrews 4:12-13**

*Note: The word “open” (vs. 13) had several uses in ancient times. One was a wrestler taking his opponent by the throat. Another was in a criminal trial where a sharp dagger was bound to the neck, the point just below the chin so he could not bow his head and had to face the court. The double edged sword was more like a dagger, commonly used for thrusting and penetration with one action rather than chopping. The heart was considered the source of one’s thoughts.*

6. What is the connection between the living word and the written word? John 1:1; 1:14
7. How can the Word of God be active? Eph 6:17; Gal 3:8
8. How can the Word penetrate? 1 Cor 14:25
9. How can the Word affect the whole person rather than just their spirit? 1 Pet 1:23-25

#### **APPLICATION**

How can you enjoy the rest of God?

How are you using the Word to help you prepare for the day that you will give an account? Jer 16:17

*A collector of old books ran into an acquaintance of his who had just thrown away an old Bible that had been in his family for generations. He happened to mention that Guten-somebody had printed it. "What? Not GUTENBERG?" gasped the book collector. "Why, yes, I THINK that was the name," said his acquaintance. "You IDIOT!" said the book collector. "You've thrown away one of the first books ever printed! Last year they auctioned one for one-and-a-half million dollars!" "Nah!" said his acquaintance. "THIS one wouldn't have been worth a cent! Some fool by the name of Martin Luther had scribbled all over the margins!"*

*Sermon Central, Gerald Flurry, Jul 2009*