<u>The Letter To The Hebrews</u>
How To Draw Near To God
Hebrews 10:1-19

<u>Introduction</u>

Satan seeks to keep us from God through either self-righteousness or despair.

But in this passage the author of Hebrews gives us truths which will destroy self-righteousness and despair.

<u>What can we learn from the Old Testament sacrifices</u>? (1-4)

The Old Testament believers had sinned and needed forgiveness. But their obedience offering of animals was not righteousness enough to gain forgiveness from God. In the same way, our obedience is not righteousness enough to gain forgiveness from God.

Let this destroy any tendency toward self-righteousness.

<u>How are people forgiven</u>? (5-10)

Jesus is pictured as quoting Psa 40:6-8 when he comes into the world — stating that animal sacrifices don't forgive sins, but that God has prepared him a body which will pay for all sins by being sacrificed on the Cross.

So don't despair: when you come to God trusting Jesus' blood and righteousness, all your sins are forgiven.

<u>What has Christ done for us</u>? (11-18)

Christ paid for all of our sins for all time (11-12)

Christ secured our final victory over sin (13)

Christ has already perfected us (14)

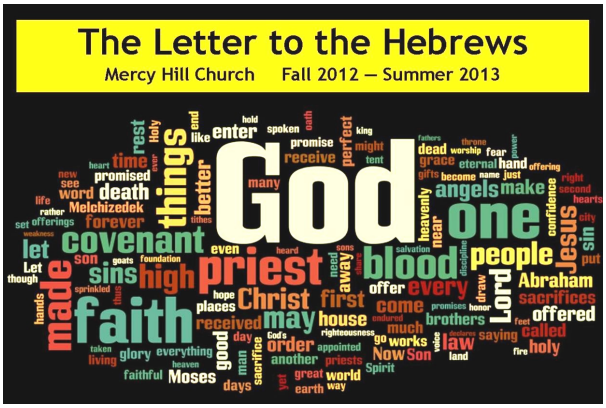
Christ is sanctifying us (14)

It's like God has forgotten all about our sin (15-18)

<u>How should we draw near to God</u>? (19)

With confidence (not despair).

By the blood of Jesus (not by our self-righteousness)



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

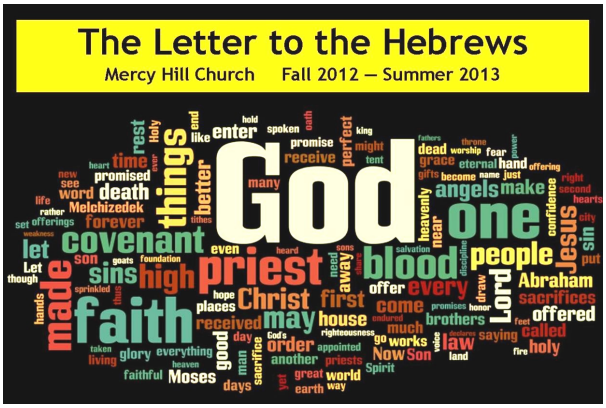
What are some amazing ways God has met you as you have sought Him in prayer and the Word?

Which has the greatest tendency to keep you from seeking God rightly — self-righteousness? or despair-over-sin?

How could someone tell when they are trying to seek God self-righteously?

How could someone tell when they are kept from seeking God by despair over sin?

How did Heb 10:1-18 crush self-righteousness? How did it crush despair?

How can you use these truths to strengthen your pursuit of God?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.