<u>The Letter To The Hebrews</u>
Let Us Draw Near To God
Hebrews 10:19-22

<u>Introduction</u>

It would be strange to be hungry, go into a restaurant, read the menu, like the menu, but then close the menu and leave. But that's what many of us do with the Bible. We read what God offers, but then close the Bible and walk away.

In today's passage God tells us what He will do when we draw near to Him. So let's not just read this and close the book. Let's read this and press in to seeking Him, because of what He promises in Hebrews 10:19-22.

<u>What does it mean to draw near to God</u>? (19)

Drawing near to God is described as entering the holy places — the holy of holies.
In the Old Testament the holy places is where God met with the high priest — where God made His presence real to the high priest.
So drawing near to God means turning from all else, and through Christ coming to meet God.

<u>How important is it that we draw near to God</u>? (19)

The word "therefore" in v.19 shows that what comes before gives us reasons to draw near to God.
And the reasons go all the way back through and including ch.5.
Note that the last verse of ch.4 is also a command to draw near to God.
So drawing near to God is important enough for six chapters' worth of Hebrews.

<u>Why should we draw near to God</u>? (20-21)

Because we now have a new way to draw near to God (20)

Because we have a living way to draw near to God (20)

Because Jesus opened the way by dying on the Cross (20)

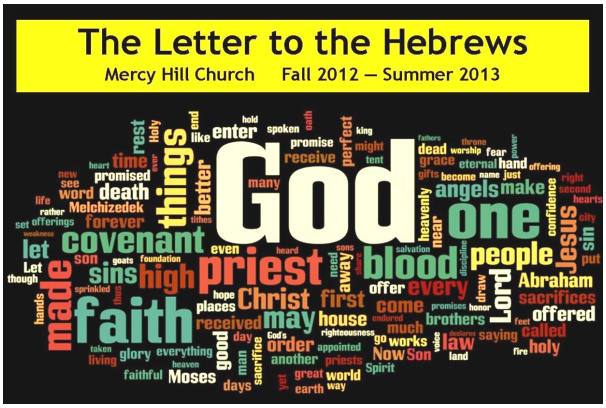
Because we have a great priest over the house of God (21)

<u>How do we draw near to God</u>? (22)

With a true heart in full assurance of faith — by faith alone — expecting God to meet us.

With hearts cleansed from guilt — so we aren't self-righteous or despairing of sin.

With bodies washed with pure water — confessing all known sin and surrendering every area of our lives.



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.)

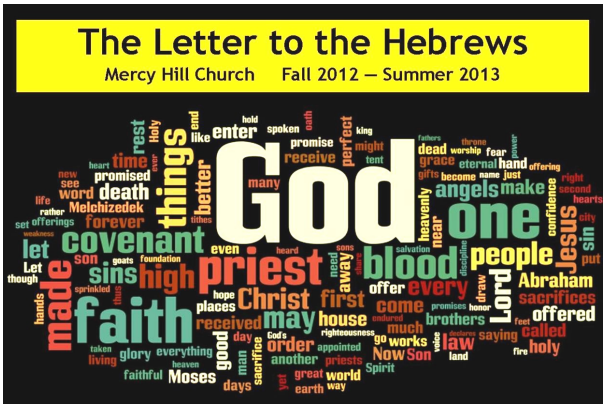
On a scale of 1 (rarely) to 10 (frequently) how often do you draw near to God?

What is your biggest distraction to seeking God?

How does it impact you to think that through Jesus we can meet God as powerfully as the high priest met God in the holy places?

Were you persuaded by the author's four reasons for why it's so important that we draw near to God? Which reason was most persuasive? Any reasons you didn't understand?

Any other questions about the passage or about Sunday's teaching?

Since Sunday, how has this passage impacted your seeking of God? How do you plan to grow in seeking God.

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