



ENGAGE

Break the Ice:

(A key part of healthy group life is to make sure your group gets to know each other and builds good relationships. The purpose of these first questions is to help your group open up. Please don't feel like you have to ask each question. Once you feel like the group is ready, move onto the "Inspire" section.)

- **When it comes to communication, what do you repeat over and over again? Who is it with and what about?**
- **What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?**

Prayer:

Take some time to pray for God to speak to your group through this week's study.

INSPIRE

Questions:

(Each question has a lot to unpack. Since the group may need time to process each question, don't let silence scare you. Try to avoid filling the space with unnecessary explanation or moving on from the question too quickly.)

1. Aaron stated, "Grace isn't really grace until we understand our need for it. Perhaps the reason why the Gospel message has failed to stir your heart is because you aren't aware of how offensive and serious sin is in the eyes of a Holy God."

- **Has this ever been true for you—either now or in the past? In what ways have you become numb to the sin in your life?**
- **If you were honest, which way do you lean with these opposing dynamics: pride vs. humility, indifference vs. awareness, and stubbornness vs. repentance? Discuss and provide evidence from your life.**

2. Read Hebrews 10:1-4. Aaron said, "There is a sinful bent in each person to 'make our own way.' We can hardly stand it to have anyone do anything for us. We'd rather earn it, work for it, or pay for it ourselves. This is where religion comes from. In our sinfulness, we prefer this. God hates this."

- **Can you recognize areas of your life where you try to earn God's favor through performance? Give examples.**

Read Hebrews 10:5-10. The idea here is that **the work of Christ is finished**. God's Son came to do what we could never do.

Read Psalm 51:17; 1 Samuel 15:22; Hosea 6:6; and Amos 5:21-24. Aaron said, "This is a stern warning for those of us in Christ who just go through the motions in worship. If He is not on display in your worship, then He hates it. What God desires from us is a heart turned towards Him, not external sacrifices to cover our disobedience."

- **How does this hit you? When you worship God, is your mind mainly focused on yourself or is it focused on God? What distractions get in your way? Why are they distractions? How can you eliminate those distractions?**

3. Read Hebrews 10:11-20.

- **Have you ever walked into a place without confidence? What does that look like? What does the confidence in verse 19 look like practically for you?**

Read Hebrews 10:21-22. Aaron said, "Verses 21-22 remind us that the barrier is removed and we can come to Him without mixed motives because we really want what God offers. We don't need to be nervous. He has taken our guilt and shame. There should be no more hiding, no more accusations."

- **How many of you feel clean? If not, what are some of the barriers that hold you back? Why are these barriers for you? How can you break through them?**

Read Hebrews 10:23.

- **Is there anyone here who is currently wavering? What are some of the obstacles in the way? Discuss.**

Read Hebrews 10:24-25.

- **How can this group actively live out these verses together?**

4. Read Hebrews 10:26-31. Aaron said, "Sin is really serious. Don't nourish, tolerate, or entertain sin. Make a bold move to deal with it, which will only bring devastation to your life and the lives of those you love."

- **Are you cultivating sin or cutting it off? Is there an area in your life that is sinful that you need to eliminate?**



Life Group Sermon Study

Surging Forward

December 7-8, 2013



EQUIP

Application:

(These questions will challenge your group members to apply the study to their daily lives. How can they live out what they take in? It is highly important that you go over this section with your group each week for the group study to be a success.)

Read Hebrews 10:32-39. Aaron said, "Those who reject faith out of pride or pain will lose everything. Those who embrace faith in the face of pride and pain will gain everything."

- **Does pride or pain get in the way of your faith in Jesus? Discuss.**

Prayer:

Take some time to pray over each group member's identified action steps and life issues.

Equip Your Mind:

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (**Hebrews 10:24-25, ESV**)