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The breadth of church
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Build inclusiveness
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“For They Shall All Know Me”

Developing a New Covenant Relationship with God

Spring 2016 / Sunday AM Bible Study



Workbook [Print goo.gl/iSmU50](http://goo.gl/iSmU50) [Phone goo.gl/KCzzWU](http://goo.gl/KCzzWU) [Tablet goo.gl/FgxaKp](http://goo.gl/FgxaKp)

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Lesson 11. From The Least To The Greatest

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An English breakfast





2016-05-15

Introduction

An English breakfast

An English breakfast



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God wants a relationship with people

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, **from the least of them to the greatest**, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

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God wants a relationship with people

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Goals

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└ Introduction

└ Goals

Goals

- Review the separation that existing under the Old Law between God and His people
- Appreciate the breadth of people that make up the New Testament church
- Propose godly ways we can enhance the inclusiveness of the Lord's church

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The tabernacle separated the Israelites from God

Heb. 9:1-14

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└ Old vs. New

└ The tabernacle separated the Israelites from God

The tabernacle separated the Israelites from God
Heb. 9:1-14

- The presence of God was in the Most Holy Place
- Even the high priest went in only once per year
- Gifts and sacrifices were offered that could not clean the conscience of the worshipers
- Regular people could never go in.

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Jesus opened the way

Heb. 10:19-22

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└ Old vs. New

└ Jesus opened the way

Jesus opened the way
Heb. 10:19-22

- We now have confidence to enter the most holy place.
- We should draw near to God with a full assurance of faith

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Jesus opened the way for everyone

Eph. 3:6

- ▶ The mystery of the gospel is that Gentiles can be God's people.
- ▶ We are all. . .
 - ▶ fellow heirs
 - ▶ members of the same body
 - ▶ partakers of the promise
- ▶ The church is (and should be) made up of all sorts of people

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└ Old vs. New

└ Jesus opened the way for everyone

09:44

Jesus opened the way for everyone
Eph. 3:6

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Early or Late

Matt. 20:1-16

- ▶ Every Christian gets heaven as their reward, whether they obeyed the gospel early in life, or later.
- ▶ Avoid saying, "Why can't they just get it together?"
- ▶ You don't want a congregation made entirely of 'mature' Christians.

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└ The breadth of church

└ Early or Late

09:48

Early or Late
Matt. 20:1-16

- Every Christian gets heaven as their reward, whether they obeyed the gospel early in life, or later.
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- No don't want a congregation made entirely of 'mature' Christians.

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Rich or Poor

James 2:1-7

- ▶ Don't favor people just because they appear wealthy.
- ▶ Don't avoid people who are dressed poorly.

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└ The breadth of church

└ Rich or Poor

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Rich or Poor
James 2:1-7

- Don't favor people just because they appear wealthy
- Don't avoid people who are dressed poorly

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Educated or uneducated

I Cor. 1:26-28

- ▶ Not many Corinthian Christians were from upper social classes. (But, they were in Philippi)
- ▶ True Christianity is never going to be followed by the majority.
- ▶ Our appeal and power lies in spiritual authority not worldly wisdom.

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The breadth of church

Educated or uneducated

09:56

1. Corinthians not many wise.

2. We're pretty distrustful of education at Walnut Street

3. The point Paul is making is that you don't try to beat intellectuals at their own game

4. What we provide is never going to 'make sense' to those who rely solely on their own intellect.

Educated or uneducated

1 Cor. 1:26-28

- Not many Corinthian Christians were from upper social classes. (But, they were in Philippi)
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Christians are each part of a body, and work toward unity.

Eph. 4:1-16

- ▶ We share one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God
- ▶ What unites us is greater than what could divide us.
- ▶ God has given Christians to be apostles, prophets, missionaries, pastors, teachers.
- ▶ What else?

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Build inclusiveness

Christians are each part of a body, and work toward unity.

10:00

1. There are specific jobs for the Lord that Paul lists.

2. Some of these, like apostles, aren't possible today.

3. Some required spiritual gifts.

4. Does that mean that God does not still give through his providence different and important abilities to the Christians in the church?

5. Of course not! People have and can develop talents in many areas that will benefit the Lord's work.

Christians are each part of a body, and work toward unity.

Eph. 4:1-16

- We share one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God
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Don't allow culture to separate you

James 2:1-7

- ▶ Don't offend others.
- ▶ Don't be easily offended.
- ▶ Resist the urge to be friends with only those 'like' you.
- ▶ Try to recognize cultural traditions vs. Biblical authority.

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Build inclusiveness

Don't allow culture to separate you

10:04

1. Traditions aren't bad, as long as, in the back of our mind, we recognize that they are traditions.

Don't allow culture to separate you

James 2:1-7

- Don't offend others.
- Don't be easily offended.
- Resist the urge to be friends with only those 'like' you.
- Try to recognize cultural traditions vs. Biblical authority.

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