



Elevate (Hebrews), Part 11
“Jesus Wept!”
March 16-17, 2019

Opening Questions (what is God doing in your life?)

- What are you thankful for this week? (Good focus for worship & prayer)
- Do you have a S.O.A.P. (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer) journal entry you'd like to share? Blank S.O.A.P. journal pages available at lifegroups.mycrosscity.com; click the “Resources” button.

Discovery Questions (hear *and* put into practice, Matthew 7:24)

- Was showing emotion a part of your family experience growing up? Who is the “crier” in your family now?
- Read Hebrews 5:1-10. Human High Priests were expected to deal gently with people who wandered astray (Vs 2-“ignorant and going astray” could also be translated “go astray through ignorance”). Have you had a spiritual leader in your life who was compassionate with you in a time of wandering? How have you felt Jesus’ compassion during those same times?
- Now read John 11:32-36. Pastor David suggested that Jesus cried out of sympathy for the pain of others. How much of that sympathy do you think came from Mary’s suggestion (Vs 32) that if Jesus had been there, they wouldn’t be experiencing this pain?
- Have you ever been in a place where you have asked God why he didn’t act sooner or differently in a painful situation in your life? How has your perspective changed as you look back on that situation now?
- In Luke 19:41-42, Jesus wept because Jerusalem had rejected him and God’s plan for them. Our world increasingly seems to be moving away from God’s plans for them. What emotions do you feel toward people who are rejecting God? What makes it difficult for you to have compassion for them?
- Read Psalms 56:8. How does it make you feel that God cares so deeply over you as you weep? How can this thought help you become more compassionate for others who are in pain? How can your group become more compassionate to those who are in pain around you?

Bible Study Tools: In addition to a good **study Bible** (examples: NIV Study Bible, NLT Study Bible, Life Application Study Bible in NIV or NLT), here are some free online resources to help you better understand the Bible:

- <https://www.biblegateway.com>. Many translations can be viewed in side-by-side columns; includes word searches, commentaries, and Bible dictionaries.
- <https://www.blueletterbible.org/>. Searches, commentaries, Bible dictionaries, and an interlinear Bible (shows Hebrew or Greek alongside English, allows you to study the meaning of the original words).
- Yes, you can “**Google**” your questions, but there is a mix of good and bad online. Look for results from the above sights plus biblehub.com, biblestudytools.com, studylight.org, and bible.org. If you’re not sure about what you’re reading, ask one of our pastors or a Christian friend you trust. Many advisors bring success (Proverbs 15:22, NLT)!

Daily Devotion (Bible reading, Prayer, Journaling): Encourage group members to engage with the Bible 4 or more times each week. Recent studies have shown that this is the most important factor in ongoing transformation. Options:

- Crawl: Verse of the day from YouVersion or BibleGateway Bible Apps.
- Walk: Short reading plans from YouVersion Bible App.
- Run: **Life Journal** (includes reading plan, daily pages, table of contents to track entries, prayer list). Available at <http://www.lifejournal.cc/>.

CALENDAR (3 terms per year: Fall, Winter, Spring)

- Week 1: Discussion Guide
- Week 2: Discussion Guide
- Week 3: Prayer Experience (using provided guide)
- Week 4: Discussion Guide
- Week 5: Strongholds discussion/prayer (using provided guide)
- Week 6: Serve Experience: see Outreach Questions above
- Week 7: Discussion Guide
- Week 8: Discussion Guide
- Week 9: Discussion Guide
- Week 10: Celebration: share the biggest thing God has done in your life over these 10 weeks, affirm and pray a blessing over each other, share communion.