



## The Living Word Class

### Study Plan - Hebrews

The outline for our study of the book of Hebrews is based on the book [Exploring Hebrews](#) which is a commentary on the letter to the Hebrews. The author, George Knight, has prepared a free [study guide](#) for his book which you can access online. You may find it very helpful as you study Hebrews. Besides this study guide, you may value getting a copy of the book as well, to help you in your study. Another helpful commentary on Hebrews is *The Abundant Life Bible Amplifier: Hebrews*. You can both books at the Adventist Book Center.

For class on this Sabbath:	Study these verses:
January 7	Hebrews: A Bird's-Eye View Follow the lesson on pages 4-8 in the <a href="#">Bible Study Guide for Exploring Hebrews</a>
January 14	Jesus: The Divine Human Hebrews 1:1-3
January 21	Jesus: Better Than Prophets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrews 1:1-3: Jesus is Son and heir</li> <li>• Compare: Exodus 4:22,23, Ex 13:1,2, Ps 2, Ps 89, Luke 2 :7</li> </ul>
January 28	Jesus: Better Than Prophets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrews 1:1-3: Jesus is Creator and sustainer</li> <li>• Compare Genesis 1, Is 40: 10-26, Is 44:24, Is 45:5-18, Ps 104</li> </ul>
February 4	Jesus: Better Than Prophets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrews 1:1-3: Jesus is the radiance of God's glory, the image of God's nature</li> <li>• Compare: Exodus 15:11, 34, Ps 76:4, Ps 80:7, Is 6, Is 9:2, Is 10:17, Is 60:20, Matt 17:1-8, John 1:14, John 14:9</li> </ul>
February 11	Jesus: Better Than Prophets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrews 1:1-3: Jesus made purification for sin</li> <li>• Compare Ex 32:30, Lev 1:4, Lev 4:20, Lev 9:7, Numbers 16:46-47, Ez 45:17, Job 1:5, Zephaniah 3:9</li> </ul>
February 18	Jesus: Better Than Prophets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrews 1:1-3: Jesus is ruler of all things, seated on the throne               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Compare 1 Chron 29:12, Ps 9:7, Ps 11:4, Ps</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	45:6, Ps 93, Ps 103:19, Ps 119:91, Is 6, Is 9:7, Is 16:5, Dan 7:9, Zech 6:13
February 25	Jesus: Better Than Angels Hebrews 1:4-14
March 3	Jesus: Better Than Angels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listen to Him: 2:1-4</li> <li>• He is the answer to life's tensions: 2:5-9</li> </ul>
March 10	Jesus: Better Than Angels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The perfecting of Jesus: 2:10-13</li> <li>• The humanity of Jesus: 2:14-18</li> </ul>
March 17	Jesus: The Better Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater than Moses: 3:1-6</li> </ul>
March 24	Jesus: The Better Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lesson in unbelief: 3:7-11</li> <li>• A lesson in perseverance: 3:12-19</li> </ul>
March 31	Jesus: The Better Rest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sabbath of the soul: 4:1-11</li> <li>• The Bible and soul surgery: 4:11-13</li> </ul>
April 7	Jesus: The Better Priest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation of our confidence: 4:14-16</li> <li>• Jesus qualifies as High Priest: 5:1-10</li> </ul>
April 14	Jesus: The Better Priest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sluggish in hearing: 5:11-14</li> <li>• Fundamental beliefs: 6:1-3</li> </ul>
April 21	Jesus: The Better Priest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unpardonable sin: 6:4-8</li> <li>• Hope after the storm: 6:9-12</li> </ul>
April 28	Jesus: The Better Priest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The anchor of the soul: 6:13-20</li> </ul>
May 5	Jesus: The Better Priesthood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mysterious Melchizedek: 7:1-3</li> <li>• The greatness of Melchizedek: 7:4-10</li> </ul>
May 12	Jesus: The Better Priesthood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The better priesthood: 7:11-19</li> </ul>
May 19	Jesus: The Better Priesthood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The greatest truth in Hebrews: 7:20-25</li> <li>• The ultimate priest: 7:26-28</li> </ul>
May 26	Jesus: The Better Covenant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A better sanctuary: 8:1-5</li> </ul>
June 2	Jesus: The Better Covenant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better promises and ministry: 8:6-13</li> </ul>
June 9	Jesus: The Better Sacrifice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The glory of the earthly sanctuary: 9:1-5</li> <li>• The weakness of the earthly sanctuary: 9:6-10</li> </ul>
June 16	Jesus: The Better Sacrifice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The better sacrifice: 9:11-14</li> <li>• The essential sacrifice: 9:15-22</li> </ul>

June 23	<p>Jesus: The Better Sacrifice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The all-sufficient sacrifice: 9:23-28</li> </ul>
June 30	<p>Jesus: The Better Sacrifice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of shadows and realities: 10:1-10</li> <li>• The finality of Christ: 10:11-18</li> </ul>
July 7	<p>Jesus: Faith in Him the Better Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The confidence of assurance: 10:19-25</li> </ul>
July 14	Camp Meeting: No Church at Kuna
July 21	<p>Jesus: Faith in Him the Better Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unpardonable sin revisited: 10:26-31</li> <li>• Blessings for perseverance: 10:32-39</li> </ul>
July 28	<p>Jesus: Faith in Him the Better Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The better hope: 11:1-3</li> <li>• The better sacrifice revisited: 11:4</li> <li>• The necessity of faith: 11:5-7</li> </ul>
August 4	<p>Jesus: Faith in Him the Better Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faith and the impossible: 11:8-12</li> <li>• The better country of faith: 11:13-16</li> </ul>
August 11	<p>Jesus: Faith in Him the Better Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sacrifice of faith: 11:17-22</li> <li>• The secret of faith: 11:23-39</li> <li>• The victory of faith: 11:30-40</li> </ul>
August 18	<p>Jesus: Following Him in the Life of Faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The race of faith: 12:1-3</li> <li>• The discipline of faith: 12:4-11</li> </ul>
August 25	<p>Jesus: Following Him in the Life of Faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The path of faith: 12:12-17</li> <li>• The mountain of faith: 12:18-24</li> <li>• The choice of faith: 12:25-29</li> </ul>
September 1	<p>Jesus: Following Him in the Life of Faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The love of faith: 13:1-6</li> <li>• The faithfulness of faith: 13:7-17</li> </ul>
September 8	<p>Concluding Thoughts</p> <p>Hebrews 13:18-25</p>

## The inductive study method

Inductive study involves identifying universal principles based upon observation of evidence. The following suggestions about how to study scripture begin at the surface and allow you to dig in as deeply as you desire. Don't feel that you must answer all the questions, but use them as a guide to help you explore the scripture for the week and discover the treasures within.

### Analysis:

- What are the limits of the text? (where does it actually begin and end? It's not always at chapter or verse boundaries.)
- What is the literary genre of the text? (is it a letter, a parable, a prophecy, a poem, a narration, a dialogue, a law, or something else?)
- Who are the people involved? (study the text to identify them)
- What do they do? (look for the verbs in the text to determine who does what)
- When is it done? (study the text to determine the sequence of events or actions involved)
- Where are they? (study the text to find names of places, use maps, commentaries, dictionaries to locate them)
- What is it about? (find the main themes)
- What are the writing styles used? (where are the repetitions? What is the structure?)
- What is the literary context of this text? (examine what follows and what precedes it to determine the larger scope)
- Are some of the texts parallel to other places in the Bible?
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### Apprehending:

- What do the words mean? (study other translations, original language, concordance, dictionaries, commentaries)
- What is the historical/social/religious context (study about the period using encyclopedias, atlases, books about the culture of the period)
- What was the author's purpose? (does he state it? What is important to him? What does he hope his readers will do?)
- Is the message consistent with the rest of the Bible? (find parallel or related verses elsewhere in the Bible)
- What principles can be derived from the text that apply to all people and times?

### Application:

- What does this text reveal to us today?
- What does this text disclose to me in particular? Is my life actually in accordance with what the text teaches? Was it ever better in the past? Can it improve in the future? What does this text reveal to me about the heart of God? What role can this text play to bring about positive change?

## Study tools

Below is a list of tools that you may wish to use in your studies. Obviously, the essential one is your Bible, but any of the others that you choose will enhance your study experience.

### The Bible

In addition to your favorite version, pull out any additional translations that you have available. Comparing the wording in several versions can help to shed light on the various possible meanings of the original language. Paraphrases such as the Living Bible are less helpful than translations. Of course, if you know those languages you'll want original language scriptures, too!

### Introductions to the books of the Bible

These can often be found in the back of your Bible, or in a Bible dictionary or commentary. They usually offer an outline and synopsis of the book.

### Concordances

A concordance lists the words used in the Bible in alphabetic order, not to define them, but to give the texts where they are used. The use of a concordance allows you to better understand the meaning of a word by seeing the various ways it is used.

### Bible Dictionaries

A Bible dictionary gives information about the people and places of the Bible and the lands mentioned in the biblical history. These can provide insight into the circumstances surrounding the scripture you read.

### Bible Atlas

These show maps of the biblical countries and help to provide context for the stories and events you read about in the Bible.

### Commentaries

Bible commentaries provide in-depth explanations, background, and context for each verse in a book of the Bible. Some helpful commentaries to consider:

The *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary* series

The *Exploring* series of commentaries on various books of the Bible (e.g. George Knight's *Exploring Romans*)

The *Daily Study Bible Series*, by William Barclay

### Electronic or online Bibles

These provide powerful word search capabilities in many Bible translations including the original languages. They have built-in concordances and definitions of each word. Examples include:

e-Sword (download to your desktop for free from <http://www.e-sword.net/>)

Bible Gateway (<http://www.biblegateway.com/>)

Bible Crosswalk (<http://www.biblestudytools.com/>)