

## Sermon Notes

A Better Priest  
Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Clay Edens  
October 28, 2018

**We have unprecedented access to God the Father through Jesus, the better priest.**

### Approach the throne of God with your temptations

<sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

### Approach the throne of God in your sufferings

<sup>8</sup> Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup> and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

### Approach the throne of God with confidence

<sup>16</sup> Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

The only priest we need now is Jesus

Take advantage of the access you have to the throne of God



*"A silly idea is current that good people do not know what temptation means. This is an obvious lie. Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is ... A man who gives in to temptation after five minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later. That is why bad people, in one sense, know very little about badness. They have lived a sheltered life by always giving in. We never find out the strength of the evil impulse inside us until we try to fight it: and Christ, because He was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means - the only complete realist."*

C.S. Lewis

## Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

*As always feel free to tweak, skip, or add questions to focus on areas you think most relevant to your group.*

1. What's the most exclusive place you've ever had access to? How did you get it?
2. Is direct access to God the Father something that you take for granted or something you see as a special privilege? How does this affect the way you use this access?
3. To what degree do you take advantage of the access you have to God?
4. What are some of the things that can hold us back from approaching God in the midst of our temptations?
5. Read the C.S. Lewis quote on the temptation of Jesus, in what ways did you find it helpful or challenging?
6. Do you find it easy to go to God or to a friend when you are in a hard time? Why?
7. What does it mean to approach God with confidence? Why should we feel confident in approaching him?
8. Do you have any experience with the Catholic Church and how has this shaped how you view your access to God?
9. What's one thing you are committed to taking before God this week?