

30 Days Together
“Immanuel - God With Us”
#30daystogether

Day #3 – Nov. 28th

Text: Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was. In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.” And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.” During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Devotion: Pastor Tyler Carter

Who would you choose to represent you before God?

Being a stubborn individual, I would prefer to represent myself. Let’s be honest, I know myself more than most. Plus, I am pretty good at presenting myself in fairly good light. It would be easy to go to God and share all my accomplishments, all the times I have served the church and my neighbor, and how I have been a great husband and father. I could easily paint this beautiful picture of my life in which most would find convincing.

However, God is not most people. God sees me. Truly sees me. He already knows everything on my highlight reel. The scary part is He knows everything that’s not on it. All the times I have failed my wife and my children, all the times I have indulged my sinful desire, all the times I have held hate and envy in my heart.

Coming before God as my own representative is no longer as appealing as I once thought. In my approach to represent myself before God, I come as a sinner before a Just and Holy God. As such, God finds me guilty of sin and demands that punishment be made. “For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23).

How beautiful it is knowing that it is not I who represents myself before God, but rather Jesus who is my High Priest. This Jesus who shares in my humanity and knows my weakness. The God Man who lived the perfect, sinless life. Yet, He who did not know sin, took on my sin. Took on the full wrath of God on the

cross and paid the punishment of sin, death. On the third day, Jesus rose declaring victory over death and eternal life to all who believe in His life, death, and resurrection.

Now Jesus is our High Priest. He is the one who represents us before a Holy and Just God. Our High Priest, Jesus, freely offers forgiveness and eternal life. God no longer sees us standing in our sin, but sees us standing behind Jesus our great High Priest.

Lord, Jesus our true High Priest, we thank you for representing us before God. Because of your life, death, and resurrection, we freely receive forgiveness and eternal life. Help us Jesus, in the middle of our sin and weaknesses to call on you for all we need. It is with confidence we pray in the name of our great High Priest, Jesus. Amen.