WEEK TWO: Jesus is Great

Go online to ringgoldchurch.com/themessageconnect to watch this week's Message Connect video.

Key Scriptures:

Hebrews 2:5 (NLT) "And furthermore, it is not angels who will control the future world we are talking about."

Hebrews 2:9 (NLT) "What we do see is Jesus, who was given a position 'a little lower than the angels'; and because he suffered death for us, he is now 'crowned with glory and honor.' Yes, by God's grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone."

Hebrews 2:10 (NLT) "God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation."

Hebrews 2:16-18 (NLT) "We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham. 17 Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. 18 Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested."

Main Points:

- Spiritual Exhaustion.
- Jesus Freed You And Me From The Payment Of Our Sins.
- · Jesus Freed Us From The Penalty Of Our Sins.
- · Jesus Freed Us From The Power Of Sin.

Humility Says These Four Things:

- · I Am A Sinner Who Needs To Be Forgiven.
- · I Am Sorry, I Was Wrong.
- · God Is In Control.
- · You Before Me.

Next Steps:

1. Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

What weird habit do you have that most people wouldn't know about you?

What is one fear you used to have that you overcame?

2. Start Thinking. Ask a thoughtful question.

Has following Jesus come with a significant cost to you (loss of support from family/friends, emotional/physical attack, change in life direction, etc.)? How has that impacted you?

Have you ever treated your devotion to Jesus as a religion rather than a relationship? What is the difference?

How can we protect ourselves from the trap of religion and invest ourselves instead in a relationship with Jesus?

3. Start Sharing. Choose questions that create openness.

What is God teaching you right now about how great He is and how small you are?

Is it difficult for you to accept that you are not in control? Talk about how you battle this in your life.

Are you going through a difficult trial that causes strain in your worship and love of God?

Do you have a healthy vs. unhealthy fear of death? What is the difference and why is this important?

For those of us who faithfully love and worship Christ, why should we have no fear of death?

4. Start Praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

Take some time to pray over your identified action steps and life issues.

5. Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

What action steps can you take to give God control of the areas of your life that you hold back from Him?

"God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. Therefore my beloved, flee from idolatry." — 1 Corinthians 10:13-14, ESV

For more information about taking the next steps in your faith, visit: ringgoldchurch.com/nextsteps.