

**Lesson 9 - Hebrews 4:14-16****Main Idea**

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is not only our brother but also our great high priest who was tempted like us but did not sin. The result of this is the fact that we now have full access to God the Father to whom we can confidently go in our time of need.

**Study Questions**

1. Look back to the truths and claims the author makes about Jesus in Hebrews 2. Explain how they complement and fortify the truths and claims he makes in 4:14-16. How are the two passages related?
2. What three characteristics does Hebrews 4:14 ascribe to Jesus? How do these attributes and identifications help us to hold fast to our confession? How do they help us for and articulate our confession?
3. Recall what the author has previously said about the high priest (see 2:17-18; 3:1). What further fact should encourage believers to put their full confidence in this high priest (see 4:15)?
4. Why is it so important that we understand that Jesus can empathize with sinners? How does that affect your outlook on the Christian life? How does it equip you in your fight against sin?
5. In what way does this privilege of approaching the throne of grace relate to entering God's rest?
6. Explain the difference between temptation and sin. How could Jesus be tempted and yet remain without sin?

7. Why are only Christians able to draw near to the throne of grace with confidence? What causes you to be apprehensive in approaching the throne? What things in your life prevent you from approaching the Lord with confidence?
  
8. In your own words, define the words *empathize*, *mercy* and *grace*. How do they relate to your own journey as a Christian?
  
9. Knowing that Jesus is our great High Priest, how does this enable us to hold firmly to our faith?

### **Gospel Glimpses<sup>1</sup>**

**Throne of Grace.** A throne is an image of authority, majesty, and power. God's throne is a holy throne (Ps.47) and is a place of judgment and condemnation of sin. However, because of the finished work of Christ on the cross, Christians are called to boldly draw near to God's throne. With Jesus seated at his right hand (Heb. 4:16; 8:1; 12:2) making intercession for the saints (7:25; 10:22). God the Father graciously provides forgiveness for sin and empowers Christians with strength to overcome temptation (2:18). In humility and confidence we can confess our sin, knowing that God will forgive us and show us grace.

### **Personal Reflection**

- What truth from this lesson would you like to take to heart this week?
  
- What particular challenges do you find in putting these lessons into practice?
  
- What role might others play in encouraging you in your faith?

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<sup>1</sup> Capps pg 38