

# Seeing Jesus as Our Great High Priest

Week of March 1: Hebrew 4:14-5:10

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## Observation

1. Read Hebrews 4:14-5:10. What are the readers told to do and why (particularly in 4:14-16)?
2. What questions come to mind as you read?

### **Observation: What does it say?**

1. What do you notice about the text?  
Things to look for:
  - repeating words and phrases
  - Answers to the questions: who, what, when, where and how?
  - contrasts and comparisons
  - similes and metaphors (images used in the text)
  - cause and effect relationships
  - details regarding: time, geography, place, people, action in the text
  - grammar
  - larger themes in the passage
  - key words and themes
2. What questions do you have?

# Interpretation

1. What do verses 5:1-4 tell us about the role of a high priest? What parallels are there between the high priest and Jesus? (*Optional: For background information on the role of the high priest see Leviticus 16:23-34. Also, Jesus as high priest like Melchizedek will be explained in Hebrews chapter 7.*)

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2. According to this passage why is Jesus able to empathize with our weaknesses? Why is this important?

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3. What do you think might be the 'time of need' that the author is talking about in 4:16?

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## Interpretation

The goal here is to answer questions raised by the text and to get at the central message of the passage itself.

What did the text mean for the original audience?

How might you summarize the central point of the passage?

# Application

1. In 4:16 we are invited to approach God's throne with confidence. Do you think that today we can lack confidence in bringing certain needs before God? Why or why not?
2. What do you think is the good news, or main take-away, for us from this text? How might you explain this take-away to a friend who is not familiar with the Bible?

# Suggestion for Prayer

Can you think of anyone you know who may need to hear the message of this passage? Spend time praying for these people.