



February 14, 2021
Pastor Eric Wakeling

Return to Your First Love Hebrews 13:7-9

Remember, Consider, Imitate Hebrews 13:7

"Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith."

- Remember your leaders
- Consider the result of how they live
- Imitate their faith

Jesus never changes Hebrews 13:8

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Don't get carried away and if you have, return Hebrews 13:9

"Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings..." Hebrews 13:9a

- Colossians 2:8 - *"See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ."*
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 - *"Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good."*
- Two dangers today in regard to varied and strange teachings
 - Progressive theology
 - Christian nationalism

Response: Return to your first love Revelation 2:4-5a

"But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first..."

DIGGING DEEPER HEBREWS 13:7-9

1 Preparation If possible, find a quiet and comfortable place. Rid yourself of distractions such as your phone, television, school work, interruptions from others, etc. Open yourself to God and intend to learn from Him. *"Lord, here I am, I present myself to You. Open my heart to the truth of what is going on in my life."*

2 Read the Text: Read *Hebrews 13:7-9* a few times until you have a clear understanding of the passage.

3 Contemplate + Journal Spend time thinking about and journaling your thoughts to the following questions. If you meet with a LifeGroup, you can also share your responses with them and have a great discussion.

- What is a word or phrase the Lord impressed on you in this time? Meditate on that.
- Ask the Lord, "Lord, who are/were leaders in my life who I have looked up to and learned from? Lord, how did they live? What would it look like for me to imitate their faith?"
- Ask the Lord, "Lord, what does it mean for me and now and my future that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever? And, Lord, are there any strange teachings I have begun to follow? What are these?"
- How do you feel? Is there a specific situation in your life that relates to this passage today? Pray through this for a moment.

4 Praise + Worship Worship is an act or mindset shift that realigns us to the reality of who God is. Find this song on Spotify, YouTube, AppleMusic, etc. and the lyrics if you would like to read or sing along. Make this song your prayer and declaration of praise and worship as you hear truths being sung over you. Allow the Lord to minister to your heart in this time. **Song Recommendation:** ["Your Love Never Fails"](#) by Jesus Culture

5 Closing Prayer Spend some time in prayer. Whether it is simply sitting in God's loving presence, expressing thankfulness and gratitude, and/or offering up supplication, pray what is on your heart.

6 Blessing *May you know and believe in your heart that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever and that he is with you as you face various trials. His love never fails.*

Your Response Today: Do you want to take a next step in your faith, ask for prayer, or learn more about following Jesus? Take a moment to fill out our online connection card by texting **"Card"** to **970-00**

Discover More: Learn about ways you can connect to life at Calvary by subscribing to weekly pastoral updates, growing in community through a LifeGroup, finding resources to give or receive care and help through this season, and discovering ways you can give to help make a difference locally and globally at CalvaryLife.org



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