

## Pause Group - Hebrews 4:14-5:3

Begin your time together by sharing highs and lows from the past week. Pray together with gratitude for the joys of the week in the lives of your group members and the world. Pray for those dealing with struggles. Pray for the worlds struggles.

**Study Questions:** Address the questions your group desires.

1. Talk about a difficult lesson you've learned and how you learned it. How did this experience give you compassion for others who are in similar situations?
2. On page 44 N.T. Wright writes "Don't make the mistake that some Christians have made of imagining Jesus having become human in the incarnation, stopped being human after his death. One of the central beliefs of the early Christians, not least in this letter and those of Paul, is that Jesus remains fully gloriously human, and that it is as a human being that he rules the world. When he represents us before the father, he isn't looking down on us from a great height and being patronizing about those poor creatures down there who can't really do much for themselves. He can truly sympathize. He has been here. He knows exactly what it's like."
  - a. What are your thoughts regarding the statement that Jesus is still human, even after the resurrection?
  - b. Once Jesus was resurrected he did not simply go to a convenient resting place in some spiritual sphere where he could remain, satisfied with having accomplished his early work. According to verse 4:14, where is Jesus now?
  - c. And what is he presently doing?
3. How does it affect you knowing that Jesus can sympathize with your weaknesses? (4:15)
4. In light of this, what does it look like for believers to approach the throne of grace with confidence? (4:16)
  - a. How is this confidence different from spiritual arrogance?
5. When you hear the words "priest" and "priesthood" what images are invoked? What are your feelings regarding those words?
6. Do you really dare to lean all the weight of your faith and hope on Jesus?
  - a. If you do, how is your life different because of that?
  - b. If not, what would change in your life if you did?

**Closing Prayer**