

The Way of a Believer Priest

Hebrews Lesson 7 · Hebrews 13:7 to 25

One Hour of Prayer Covering the Teaching Session

OUR CENTRAL PRAYER

“Lord, help us dare to be different: to live lives that reflect our identification with Jesus Christ, honor godly spiritual leadership, stand with Christ even when it brings reproach, and offer our lives as sacrifices of praise and service.”

The lesson's final call can be summed up in three words: **dare to be different**. Because Jesus Christ is greater than every other god or religious system, believers are called to live lives that show they belong completely to Him, even when that brings reproach.

Before the Hour Begins: The Leader's Opening

The leader opens the time with these words:

“Sisters, this is our final Hebrews prayer session, and our focus is the way of a believer priest.

Hebrews has shown us who Jesus is, what He has done and why He is better. Now the question is this: how should we live because we know Him?

The answer is: dare to be different. We are called to live differently, worship differently, serve differently and identify ourselves completely with Jesus Christ.

During this hour, we will pray for our spiritual leaders, our commitment to sound doctrine, our willingness to identify with Christ, our sacrifices of praise and service, and our faithfulness to the end.

Let us not pray only for other people. Let us ask the Lord to make us women who live as faithful believer priests.”

1. Dare to Be Different

0 TO 5 MINUTES

“Lord Jesus, give us courage to live for You.”

The lesson's final call is to dare to be different, and to live a life that reflects the One in whom we have placed our faith.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:13 (KJV)

“Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Romans 12:2 · 1 Peter 2:9 · Philippians 3:20

FOR THE LEADER

Begin by reading Hebrews 13:13. Then say:

"The Christian life is not about blending into the world. We belong to Christ. Let us ask God for courage to live differently because we belong to Him."

PRAY FOR

- Courage to live differently.
- Complete identification with Christ.
- Freedom from the desire to please the world.
- Strength to stand for the truth of Scripture.
- A life that is clearly and distinctly Christian.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

"Lord Jesus, help us dare to be different. Let our lives reflect that we belong to You. Deliver us from the desire to fit in with the world. Give us courage to stand for Christ even when it is difficult."

LEADER SAYS

"If we are going to live differently, we need godly leaders who teach us the truth and model it with their lives. Let us pray for those who lead and feed the church."

2. Godly Spiritual Leaders

5 TO 10 MINUTES

"Father, raise up faithful leaders."

The lesson describes worthy spiritual leaders as those who teach the true Word and live it out themselves.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:7 (KJV)

"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

1 Thessalonians 5:12, 13 · 1 Peter 5:2 to 4 · 2 Timothy 2:2

FOR THE LEADER

Ask the women to pray specifically for:

- Pastors
- Elders
- Bible teachers
- Ministry leaders
- Seminary teachers
- Those discipling the next generation

PRAY FOR

- Faithful pastors.
- Leaders who teach the true Word.
- Leaders whose lives match their teaching.
- Strength for those carrying spiritual responsibility.
- Protection for pastors and their families.
- Wisdom and integrity in leadership.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

"Father, raise up faithful spiritual leaders. Give our pastors and teachers courage to teach Your true Word and grace to live what they teach. Protect their families, strengthen them when they are weary and keep them faithful to their calling."

LEADER SAYS

"God has given leaders to teach His people, but He also calls the church to respond rightly. Let us pray for respect, love and right submission to faithful spiritual leadership."

3. Honoring Godly Leadership

10 TO 15 MINUTES

"Lord, give us humble and teachable hearts."

Spiritual leaders keep watch over souls, and one day they will give an account of how they cared for God's people.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:17 (KJV)

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

1 Thessalonians 5:12, 13 · 1 Peter 5:5 · Ephesians 4:11, 12

FOR THE LEADER

Make it clear that the lesson is speaking about godly spiritual leadership: those who teach the truth and care for the flock. Then say:

"Let us pray that we will not lightly regard those whom God has appointed to teach and shepherd us."

PRAY FOR

- Respect for faithful pastors and leaders.
- Hearts willing to receive biblical instruction.
- Unity between pastors and congregations.
- Protection from rebellion and needless conflict.
- Leaders who shepherd without domineering.
- Churches that work together with faithful, biblical leadership.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

"Lord, give us humble and teachable hearts. Help us respect and support faithful spiritual leaders. Give pastors wisdom to shepherd Your flock well. Let there be unity, trust and peace between leaders and congregations."

LEADER SAYS

"One of the dangers the lesson names is being carried away by strange or changing doctrines. Let us now pray that the church will stay anchored in the unchanging Jesus and the truth of God's Word."

4. Holding Fast to the Unchanging Christ

15 TO 20 MINUTES

"Lord Jesus, You never change."

The lesson warns against divers and strange doctrines. Jesus has not changed, and He does not need to be made "relevant."

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:8 (KJV)

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Malachi 3:6 · John 14:6 · Ephesians 4:14, 15

FOR THE LEADER

Read the verse slowly:

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

Then pray for stability in doctrine and in faith.

PRAY FOR

- Faithfulness to biblical doctrine.
- Protection from false teaching.
- Discernment about new teachings.
- Stability in Christ.
- Churches committed to the truth.
- Teachers who handle Scripture faithfully.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Lord Jesus, You are unchanging. Establish us in the truth of Your Word. Protect our churches from false and strange doctrines. Give us discernment and wisdom. Do not allow us to exchange biblical truth for ideas that only sound new or attractive.”

LEADER SAYS

“The next challenge is more personal. To identify with Christ means we may have to bear His reproach. Let us pray for courage to stand with Jesus when following Him becomes costly.”

5. Courage to Bear the Reproach of Christ

20 TO 25 MINUTES

“Lord, we will stand with You.”

Identifying with Christ may bring scorn and reproach. Even so, we are called to stand with Him because of who He is and what He has done.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:13 (KJV)

“Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Matthew 5:10 to 12 · 2 Timothy 3:12 · 1 Peter 4:14

FOR THE LEADER

Ask the women to pray for believers who are facing criticism, rejection or opposition because of their faith.

PRAY FOR

- Courage to identify with Christ.
- Believers facing rejection.
- Pastors and missionaries facing opposition.
- Young people standing for biblical truth.
- Families under pressure because of their faith.
- Strength to remain faithful.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Lord Jesus, give us courage to identify with You. When following You brings criticism or rejection, help us not to compromise. Give strength to every believer who is suffering for Your name. Help us count the reproach of Christ as worth more than the approval of the world.”

LEADER SAYS

"The lesson reminds us that Christ is our altar. We do not offer another sacrifice for sin, because Jesus has already completed that work. Instead, we offer our lives to Him. Let us pray for complete surrender."

6. Christ Is Our Altar: Dying to Self

25 TO 30 MINUTES

"Lord Jesus, You are our perfect sacrifice."

The lesson teaches that Jesus is the believer's altar. This is not because we must offer another sacrifice for sin, but because Jesus Himself is the perfect sacrifice.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:10 (KJV)

"We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle."

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Galatians 2:20 · Luke 9:23 · Romans 12:1

FOR THE LEADER

Say:

"We do not come to God with our own sacrifice for sin. Christ is our perfect sacrifice. Our response is to die to self and worship Him."

PRAY FOR

- Surrender to Christ.
- Death to selfish desires.
- Freedom from living at the altar of self.
- Complete identification with Jesus.
- Obedience to Christ's commands.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

"Lord Jesus, You are our perfect sacrifice. Help us die to self and worship You. Deliver us from living at the altar of self. Let our desires, ambitions and decisions be surrendered to You."

LEADER SAYS

"When we die to self, we become free to serve others. The believer priest is not called only to receive. We are called to offer sacrifices that express our love and devotion to Christ."

7. Offering the Sacrifice of Praise

30 TO 35 MINUTES

"Father, You are worthy of praise."

Praise can be hard when life is going very well, and also when it is going very badly. Our praise begins with who God is, not only with what we have received.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:15 (KJV)

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Psalm 34:1 · Psalm 7:17 · Philippians 4:4 · Psalm 50:14, 15

FOR THE LEADER

Lead the women into a minute or two of real praise. Say:

“For the next few moments, let us praise God. Not because everything is going well, but because He is worthy.”

PRAY FOR

- A lifestyle of praise.
- Praise in difficult circumstances.
- Gratitude when things go well.
- Freedom from complaining.
- Worship rooted in God’s character.
- Families that make praise a habit.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Father, You are worthy of praise. Teach us to praise You in good times and in hard times. Keep us from taking credit when things go well and from blaming You when things go badly. Let praise come from our lips continually, because You are righteous, merciful and gracious.”

LEADER SAYS

“Praise is one sacrifice. Hebrews also speaks of the sacrifice of doing good. Let us pray that our gratitude for Christ will become practical service to others.”

8. Offering the Sacrifice of Good Works

35 TO 40 MINUTES

“Lord, make us willing servants.”

Good works do not earn salvation. They are the evidence of salvation, and they express our gratitude and love for Jesus.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:16 (KJV)

“But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Romans 12:1, 2 · Ephesians 2:10 · Galatians 6:9, 10 · James 2:17

FOR THE LEADER

Say:

“We do not do good works to earn salvation. We serve because we have received salvation and because we love Jesus.”

PRAY FOR

- A willingness to serve others.
- Compassion for people in need.
- Opportunities for ministry.
- Good works that flow from gratitude.
- Women who serve faithfully without recognition.
- Churches active in practical ministry.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Lord, make us willing servants. Show us where we can serve others. Let our good works flow from gratitude for our salvation. Give us opportunities to bless people, encourage people and show the love of Christ.”

LEADER SAYS

“A believer priest does not live for self. We live in relationship with Christ and with His people. Let us now pray for unity, love and care for one another within our churches.”

9. Unity and Love in the Body of Christ

40 TO 45 MINUTES

“Father, fill Your church with love.”

Hebrews 13 opens with a simple command. Before anything else, God’s people are to keep loving one another.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:1 (KJV)

“Let brotherly love continue.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

John 13:34, 35 · Romans 12:10 · Philippians 2:1 to 4

FOR THE LEADER

Ask the women to pray for their local churches and ministry relationships. Say:

“Let us pray that our churches will be places where believers truly love, encourage and serve one another.”

PRAY FOR

- Love among believers.
- Unity in our churches.
- Healthy relationships between leaders and members.
- Freedom from division.
- Encouragement for one another.
- Churches that reflect Christ to their communities.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Father, fill Your church with genuine love. Remove division, pride and competition. Help us serve one another and carry one another’s burdens. Let our churches show the character of Jesus Christ.”

LEADER SAYS

“The believer priest is called to live differently, not only inside the church but also in the world. Let us pray for families and for the next generation to stay identified with Christ.”

10. Families and the Next Generation

45 TO 50 MINUTES

“Father, raise up a generation that loves You.”

God’s plan has always been for one generation to pass on His truth to the next, so that our children will set their hope in Him.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Psalm 78:5 to 7 (KJV)

“For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Deuteronomy 6:6, 7 · 2 Timothy 1:5 · Proverbs 22:6

FOR THE LEADER

Invite mothers, grandmothers and every woman who influences children and young people to pray specifically for the next generation. Say:

“Let us ask God to raise children and young people who will dare to be different because they belong to Jesus.”

PRAY FOR

- Christian parents.
- Children and young people.
- Biblical teaching in our homes.
- Young people facing pressure from the culture around them.
- Children who will identify openly with Christ.
- The next generation of pastors and ministry leaders.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Father, protect the next generation. Give parents wisdom to teach Your Word. Help our children and young people stand for Christ when the world pressures them to conform. Raise up a generation that knows Jesus, loves His Word and dares to be different.”

LEADER SAYS

“The sacrifices of a believer priest are not an attempt to earn salvation. They are expressions of love and gratitude, because Christ has already done everything needed for our salvation. Let us pray for lives of complete surrender.”

11. Presenting Our Lives as Living Sacrifices

50 TO 55 MINUTES

“Father, we give ourselves to You.”

The lesson uses Romans 12 to describe offering our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:1, 2 (KJV)

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Hebrews 13:15, 16 · Galatians 2:20 · Philippians 1:20, 21

FOR THE LEADER

If they are comfortable, ask everyone to hold their hands open before them as a sign of surrender. Say:

“Let us give ourselves afresh to the Lord. Not to earn salvation, but because of the mercies we have already received.”

PRAY FOR

- Complete surrender.
- Renewed minds.
- Freedom from conforming to the world.
- Lives that show God’s will.
- Willingness to obey God’s calling.
- Faithfulness in ministry.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Father, because of Your mercies, we present ourselves to You. Take our lives, our families, our gifts, our time and our future. Renew our minds. Keep us from conforming to the world. Let our lives become living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to You.”

LEADER SAYS

“We have prayed to live differently, to honor spiritual leadership, to stand with Christ, to praise Him and to serve others. Let us finish by praying for the grace of God to establish us and help us finish faithfully.”

12. God, Establish Us and Make Us Faithful

55 TO 60 MINUTES

“Father, work in us what pleases You.”

Hebrews ends with a blessing, not a burden. We cannot live this life in our own strength, but the God of peace works in us what is pleasing in His sight.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 13:20, 21 (KJV)

“Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Philippians 1:6 · Jude 24, 25 · 1 Thessalonians 5:23, 24

FOR THE LEADER

Read Hebrews 13:20, 21 slowly. Then say:

“The final word of Hebrews is not that we accomplish this life in our own strength. We need God to make us complete in every good work and to work in us what is pleasing in His sight.”

Lead straight into the closing prayer.

PRAY FOR

- God’s work in every believer.
- Faithfulness until the end.
- God’s purposes to be completed.
- Leaders who finish well.
- Churches that remain faithful to Christ.
- The next generation to carry the Gospel forward.
- Everything we do to be pleasing in God’s sight.

WORDS TO USE IN PRAYER

“Father, establish us. Make us complete in every good work. Work in us what is pleasing in Your sight. Help us live as faithful believer priests. Give us grace to finish well and to leave a faithful testimony for the next generation.”

Closing Five Minutes: Praying Together

Father, we come before You in the precious name of Jesus Christ.

Thank You for Jesus Christ, our Great High Priest. Thank You for everything Hebrews has taught us about who He is and what He has done.

Lord, help us dare to be different. Let our lives reflect our complete identification with Jesus Christ. Give us courage to stand for Christ when the world opposes us.

We pray for our pastors, elders, teachers and spiritual leaders. Give them wisdom, holiness, courage and faithfulness. Help us respect and support those who faithfully teach Your Word and shepherd Your people.

Protect the church from strange doctrines. Establish us in the unchanging truth of Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus, You are our perfect sacrifice. Help us die to self and worship You. Do not allow us to live at the altar of self.

Teach us to offer the sacrifice of praise, when circumstances are good and when they are difficult. Teach us to praise You because of who You are.

Teach us to offer the sacrifice of good works. Make us servants who bless others because we love Jesus. Fill our churches with love and unity.

Protect our families. Protect our marriages. Protect our children and young people. Raise up a generation that knows Your Word and dares to be different.

Father, we present our bodies as living sacrifices. Renew our minds. Keep us from conforming to the world. Take our lives, our gifts, our time, our families and our future, and use everything for Your glory.

And now, Lord, establish us. Make us complete in every good work. Work in us that which is pleasing in Your sight. Help us live as faithful believer priests. Help us finish well, and help us leave a faithful testimony for the next generation.

May our lives say:

**Christ is better.
Christ is worthy.
Christ is our Lord.
We belong to Him.**

In the precious name of Jesus Christ,

Amen.

Final Call and Response

The leader speaks the first line and the women respond.

Leader: "Lord, help us dare to be different."

Women: "We will identify with Christ."

Leader: "Lord, establish our spiritual leaders."

Women: "Give them wisdom, holiness and faithfulness."

Leader: "Lord, protect us from strange doctrines."

Women: "We will hold fast to the truth of Christ."

Leader: "Lord, help us bear the reproach of Christ."

Women: "We will stand with Jesus."

Leader: "Lord, You are our perfect sacrifice."

Women: "We will die to self and worship You."

Leader: "Lord, receive our sacrifice of praise."

Women: "You are worthy of our praise."

Leader: "Lord, receive our sacrifice of service."

Women: "We will serve others for Christ."

Leader: "Lord, establish the next generation."

Women: "May they know Christ and stand for Him."

Leader: "Lord, establish us and make us faithful."

Women: "We will dare to be different and finish well."

Three Phrases for the Prayer Team to Keep Praying

- 1. "Dare to be different."**
- 2. "Christ is our sacrifice and our Lord."**
- 3. "Live as a faithful believer priest."**

HOW THIS HOUR UNFOLDS

The prayer time follows the flow of the lesson, step by step:

Dare to be different, honor godly leadership, hold fast to the unchanging Christ, bear His reproach, die to self, offer praise, serve others, love the body of Christ, disciple the next generation, present ourselves as living sacrifices, be established by God, and **finish faithfully.**