

Abide in Me

John 15:4

***Bible studies for disciples
who make disciples***



Volume 8 - Number 25

The Week of May 14, 2023

Live Small

Exile in Place

Hebrews 13:13-16

Welcome to the third message in the series *Live Small*. In Hebrews 13 the writer is guiding his readers and us to the practical implications of the superiority of Jesus Christ. Since Jesus is better than anyone and anything else, he exhorts us in how we should live while facing hard times. This passage is inextricably connected to what has come before it. By the shedding of His own blood, Jesus has sanctified all who believe in Him. Since His suffering occurred outside the gate of Jerusalem, we must go to Christ outside the camp. Jerusalem or any earthly city is not our permanent home. While all that is earthly is passing, the writer encourages us with a series of active verbs to *Live Small* by living as exiles where God has placed us.

READING AND OBSERVING HEBREWS 13:13-16

¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵ Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

- Place brackets around the word “therefore” and above it draw an arrow pointing in both directions.
- Double underline all the verbs in the paragraph.
- Place a Δ over each reference to God the Father.
- Place a † over all the pronouns referring to Christ.
- In the left margin of verse 14 write: *The City of Man* and *The City of God*.
- Underline both occurrences of “let us.”
- Circle “sacrifice” and “sacrifices” and draw a connecting line between them.

EXPLORING THE PASSAGE TOGETHER THROUGH DISCUSSION

1. In what way did Jesus die “outside the gate?” Why does the writer of Hebrews find this significant for his first readers and for all Christians for all time?

2. What does it mean to go to Jesus outside the camp?

3. What does it mean to bear the reproach Jesus endured?

4. In Sunday's message, Pastor Paul used the word *exile* to refer to our temporary dwelling in this world. Currently, we are resident aliens. What do these images provoke for you?

5. What does the writer infer by saying we have no lasting city here?

6. What is the city which is to come? How can you seek it and why? (Read also Hebrews 11:9-16).

7. What are the sacrifices that God is well pleased with (vss. 15-16)? How are the sacrifices we are to offer the consequence of Jesus' sacrifice for us?

8. In what way is our worship a sacrifice to God?

9. What is the main lesson you draw from this passage? How will it determine the way you see the world and how you will live in it?

Sermon Notes: *Exile in Place*

Hebrews 13:13-16