

SERMON SERIES: The GOAT- Greatest Of All Time

SPEAKER: Scott Beckenhauer

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Sermon Title

“He Paid the Price”

Introduction

This week we continued our series “The GOAT” – The Greatest Of All Time, taking a look through the book of Hebrews and seeing that every aspect of Jesus is the Greatest of All Time. Who He is, what He said, and how He loves, He is the GOAT. This week, Scott led us to focus on the greatest thing that anyone ever did for us: Jesus Christ dying on the cross for our sins. Through this gift, we get to be accepted as a part of God’s family and have an intimate relationship with Him that transforms our lives. To get started this week, answer this icebreaker question with your group:

- What is one of the most amazing things that someone has ever done for you, and how did it impact your life?

Seek the Word

- Read Hebrews 4:14-15 aloud, then discuss.
 - The passage describes Jesus as our “great high priest” who has ascended into heaven and can empathize with our weaknesses. How does understanding Jesus’ role as a high priest who empathizes with us change the way you view your relationship with Him?
- Read Hebrews 4:16 aloud, then discuss.
 - This verse encourages us to approach the throne of God with confidence, and tells us what we receive when that happens. What does it mean to you to approach God’s throne with *confidence*, and how should the assurance of mercy and grace affect your prayer life and your understanding of God’s grace?
- Read Matthew 4:1-11 aloud, then discuss.
 - How does Jesus’ response to temptation serve as a model for us, and what can we learn from his reliance on Scripture during these trials?

Go Deeper

Reflect on a time when you felt distant from God due to sin or temptation. What did that feel like in the moment, and how did your relationship with God change? On the other side of that, how does knowing that Jesus empathizes with your struggles change your perspective on approaching God in those moments?

Talk About It

- Scott's sermon encouraged us to approach God's throne of grace with confidence. What practical steps can you take this week to approach God more confidently in prayer and in your daily life?
- Identify an area in your life where you are currently facing temptation. How can you invite Jesus into that struggle, and what Scripture can you use to combat it? As a group, help each other with those Scripture suggestions.
- Community and support in our faith journeys are so important. What is something you can do as an individual or as a group that could provide support for our church community to help others hold firmly to their faith? If you feel like you are needing to seek out that support, how can your group be that for you in this time of struggle?

Wrap Up

Reminder: Jesus is our direct access to God. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus became our way to God and invited us into His family. Because we are in the family, we get the confidence to approach God just as we are and trust that He will do the great work of cleaning us up and molding us into His image. Because God wants to give you mercy and grace that is greater than anything we could ever hope to find ourselves— the **Greatest Of All Time**.

Challenge: This week, commit to identifying one area of your life where you feel tempted or distant from God. Each day, take a few moments to pray specifically about this area, inviting Jesus into your struggle and asking for His strength and guidance. As you pray, use a specific Scripture that speaks to your situation, much like Jesus did when He was tempted in the wilderness. At the end of the week, or next time you gather with your group, reflect on how this practice has impacted your relationship with God and your ability to resist temptation.

Prayer: Pray together as a group, thanking God for the sacrifice of Jesus and the debt that He paid on our behalf. Ask Him for strength and guidance as you face temptation and struggle, and thank Him for his continual intercession in your life, as He has always done and will always do.