



Hebrews 13:1-14 : See ...

There's a lot in this passage, and there wasn't enough time to cover everything on Sunday, there should be lots of scope for conversation to range... but here are a few questions which might help your group chew on it:

Verses 1-5 call the Hebrew believers to a culture of *Philadelphia* brotherly/sisterly love.

- What, in practice, do you think verse 1 means for our week by week engagement in church? How can we "keep on loving each other"?
- Which aspects of verses 1-3 feel most challenging for you?
- Verses 4-5 feel almost like a random aside, as the author warns them about wrong views of marriage and money... Why do you think these are important if they're to establish a culture of brotherly/sisterly love?

Verses 5-10 remind them of where their confidence is

- How do verses 5 and 6 give a counter point to the risk of “the love of money” in verse 5?
- If we’re to look to the work of God in our leaders it might be helpful if we speak more about the work of God in our lives! Are there ways we could encourage a culture of testimony sharing and honest reflection on the way God is working through our day to day experience?
- Verse 8 is one of the most famous lines in this book, with good reason. It’s probably worth dwelling on verses 8-10 with your group!
 - Why is it so important for Christians to know that verse 8 is true? What difference does it make for the way we approach or respond to our daily challenges?
 - Remembering the context of the letter, why are verses 9 and 10 so important for the Hebrew Christians to hear?

Verses 11-14 challenge them to follow Jesus “outside the camp”

- These verses probably felt much heavier for the Hebrew believers, or for modern day converts from other religions. Where, in 21st century Britain, are believers called to go “outside the camp” with Jesus, and where are they likely to “bear the disgrace he bore”? How does this passage help us to accept, and even choose this?
- Verse 14 points our eyes to the future city of God, rather than to see an “enduring city” for ourselves here. Where do you risk putting too much hope in what we have now? How will our lives look different if our hope is invested in what is to come? How can we help each other to fix our eyes on the right things?