

**PRAYER**

- Ask God to do a cleansing work in your hearts and minds so that you will be able to approach Him on the right basis.

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- Pray that God will connect you to a spiritual family and strengthen your relationships as you walk this Christian faith together.

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- Lift in prayer those who need to have a relationship with God and ask for opportunities to share the Good News with them.

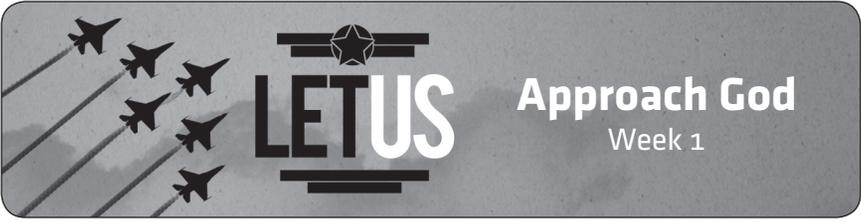
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**NOTES**

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**CONNECT**

- When faced with a serious challenge, do you face it alone or do you prefer having someone alongside you? Why?
- In what situations would you consider having someone step in on your behalf?
- What circumstances are better faced by a group? Individually?

## WORD

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

## WHAT *What does the Bible say?*

Christianity entails an extremely personal and passionate devotion to our Lord Jesus Christ. However, it also includes the concept of having a spiritual family. We find in Scripture that finding encouragement and instruction and living in faith are always in the context of spiritual community. How, then, should we approach God in light of this?

- **Let us approach God alongside other believers.**

*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Hebrews 10:25

The phrase “let us” is a call for us to be part of a community. We are not called to live in spiritual isolation. All over Scripture is an implicit and explicit call for us to be part of a community of believers. It clearly teaches us that we are to live out faith alongside each other, not in spite of one another. Who are the people you consider as your spiritual community?

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- **Let us approach God with boldness.**

*Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Hebrews 4:16

In Greek context, only the citizens have the freedom and confidence to speak their minds. Slaves do not have the same freedom since they are subject to a master. But as Christians, we don't serve a capricious ruler but a gracious God who sees us as Jesus' redeemed when we approach Him. How do we approach God with confidence?

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- **Let us approach God on the right basis.**

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.*

Hebrews 4:15

The only reason we can approach God with confidence is Jesus, our excellent High Priest. High priests in the Old Testament represent the people before God. We come before God not on the basis of our own rights but because Jesus paved the way for us to be restored back into relationship with God by His finished work on the cross. Why can we trust Jesus as our High Priest?

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## SO WHAT *What is the relevance of the Word to my life?*

- How have you been approaching God? What mindsets do you think need to change so you can come to God with confidence?
- Have you been a spiritual loner? Who are the people in church that are speaking into your life and you are comfortable confiding with?
- In your years of walking with God, on whose account are you approaching God?

## NOW WHAT *How do I apply the Word to my life?*

- How can being in a Victory group help you and others spur each other to boldly go before God?
- Whenever you have feelings of inadequacy in coming to God, what should you remind yourself? Who can help you approach God with boldness just as He wants you to?
- Who are the people you know that need to be included in a spiritual community? How can you encourage them to join a Victory group?