

Sermon Discussion Questions: August 2, 2026

The End of Religion

Sermon Series: Running the Race of Faith

Passage: Hebrews 8:1-23

1. Where do you most naturally look for a sense of "enoughness" or significance? The sermon suggested that everyone has "religious impulses," whether through religion, career, family, politics, success, or something else. What are the "shadows" you are most tempted to grasp in order to feel secure, valuable, or fulfilled?
2. What difference does it make that Jesus says, "It is finished," instead of "Try harder"? Hebrews presents Jesus as the priest who has already made the sacrifice and is now seated because his work is complete. Where do you find yourself slipping back into striving to earn God's approval or prove your worth? How does the finished work of Christ speak into that?
3. What does it mean to have God's law written on your heart? The new covenant isn't simply about receiving better instructions but about God changing our desires so that we increasingly want to know and obey him. Have you experienced ways God has changed your heart over time rather than merely changing your behavior? Where are you asking him to continue that work?
4. What makes following Jesus feel difficult for you right now? Hebrews was written to believers who were weary and tempted to drift away. As you consider your current season, what pressures, disappointments, temptations, or distractions make perseverance challenging? How does the truth that "you have everything you need in Jesus" encourage you?
5. How should participating in the New Covenant reshape your priorities this week? The sermon concluded by saying that people who belong to the New Covenant begin asking kingdom questions instead of merely personal ones. What is one concrete way you can shift your attention this week—from building your own kingdom to participating in God's kingdom through justice, generosity, evangelism, hospitality, or care for others?