

## Daily Preoccupation (Hebrews 3)

With so much information coming at us (and so fast), we can easily end up settling for a superficial, surface knowledge of things. Hebrews 3 takes us beneath the surface of faith in Jesus and invites us to stay there – to make him the daily preoccupation of our lives. And to do so with careful observation, fierce resolve and a humble assessment of our own hearts.

### 1. Careful observation (Hebrews 3:1-5)

“Consider Jesus” = take notice, make careful observations; look at in a reflective manner, contemplate.  
“Fix your thoughts” = direct your attention, your mind steadily.

Hebrews 3 is arguing from lesser to greater – not to belittle Moses but to highlight the status of Jesus.  
*V3 Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory (honor; attention)...*

### 2. Fierce resolve (Hebrews 3:6)

“Hold fast”? = *“hold down securely; seize; take possession of”*

### 3. Humble assessment (Hebrews 3:7-19)

Quotes Psalm 95:7-11. Recognizes divine authorship (“the Holy Spirit says”).

VV7-8 *“don’t harden your hearts”* = “heart” refers to the center of who you are; the seat of your affections and decision making – what drives you.

*A “sinful and unbelieving heart” grows out of “a pattern of life that turns a deaf ear to God’s Word.”*  
1 Corinthians 10:1-14

VV16-19 Three compelling questions drive home the seriousness of the warning.

**QUESTIONS** (Pray, read the passage and pick 4-5 questions to discuss. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide.)

1. Give an example of when you were really passionate about something but over time that passion faded away. Why did the passion fade?
2. Read Hebrews 3:1-6. What does it mean to “consider Jesus” or to “fix your thoughts on Jesus”?
3. How does the writer compare and contrast Moses and Jesus in the first six verses of chapter 3?
4. What was at stake for first century Jews who left Judaism to follow Jesus as Messiah? What are some consequences or challenges you have faced for following Jesus? What does Hebrews 3:6 tell us to “hold fast” to?
5. Read Hebrews 6:7-19. What is the repeated challenge? Why is Israel’s example of unbelief so sobering? What did they stop believing about God? Consider also 1 Corinthians 10:1-14.
6. Why might we be tempted to think we couldn’t fall, or drift away from Christ? How can we fight spiritual complacency?
7. What does it look like to *“exhort one another every day”*? What does it require? Can you share a personal example of when someone’s exhortation was used to strengthen or keep you?
8. Did the Spirit of God encourage or convict you through Hebrews 3 in a specific way?

Pray about how you are tempted to fall back into old habits of relying on other things or people besides Jesus. Ask God to keep you from complacency and to help you keep a firm, tight grip on him.