

GROWTH GROUPS

October 2, 2011

Hebrews 1:4-14

Conversation Starter -

Consider the place of angels in our world today. As a group, develop a list of ways you hear about or experience angels in our world today (ie. greeting cards,) What impression does the world seem to have about angels based on this list?

The Bible paints a significantly different picture of what you may have experienced about angels in the world. In Scripture, the angels are pictured as mighty servants of God who have very specific purposes and whose immediate presence causes a person to respond with reverent fear (consider, Isaiah 6 and the response of the shepherds in the nativity account.) Yet, in our text Jesus is presented as one who is far greater than the angels!

Questions -

1. Read Hebrews 4-14 and outline the ways in which Jesus is greater than the angels? *(In Sunday's message 5 ways were given)*
2. In our culture, many who would not consider themselves Christians might say they are spiritual people and are fascinated by concepts like "angels." Why do you think people would be drawn to angels but give little consideration to the person and claims of Christ, though he is presented as far greater?
3. The author of Hebrews is writing, at least in part, to discourage his audience from falling back into their old religion (Judaism) through the dependence on angels. We may not be tempted to look at angels in the same way, but we are tempted to fall back into familiar patterns, especially when we face difficulty in our relationship with Christ. What are some of the familiar patterns that tempt us to take our eyes off Christ? How can we help one another to remain focused on Jesus?