Adult Group Study Guide for December 13, 2020 "Communicating with Knuckleheads" Hebrews 1:1-4

Goal: To grow in our awareness of the supremacy of Christ and embrace Jesus as Lord.

Key Verse: The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. — Hebrews 1:3 (NIV)

- 1. The letter to the Hebrews can be difficult to understand because of all the references by the author to the Old Testament. For an excellent introduction to this book of the Bible, watch the Bible Project video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fNWTZZwgbs. What are the two main goals of the letter to the Hebrews?
- 2. Think of a time when you had difficulty communicating something to another person who was having trouble understanding what you were trying to say. What was most helpful in bridging the gap? [storytelling, comparisons, metaphors?] Imagine yourself in the place of God trying to teach eternal principles to humans with limited understanding. What did God do to communicate with us?
- 3. Read Hebrews 1:1-3. In what ways did sending Jesus into the world cut out the middleman? What role did the prophets play in the Old Testament? How is this change reflected in the comments of John the Baptist in John 1:19-27; 3:27-30; and what Jesus said about John in Luke 7:24-28. Why does John 1:1-4 describe Jesus as the Word of God?
- 4. Read Hebrews 1:4-14. Why are angels so fascinating? What is their purpose according to these verses? In what ways is Jesus superior to the angels?
- 5. Read Hebrews 3:1-6. What role did Moses play in the Old Testament? Why did the writer to the Hebrews think it was important to compare Jesus with Moses? What can we learn from knowing that Jesus is the builder of the house (Matthew 16:13-18) and the Great Physician (Luke 5:31-32)?
- 6. Read Hebrews 4:14-16 and 7:22-28. In what ways has Jesus taken the place of the priests of the Old Testament? How has his sacrifice replaced all other sacrifices? How will this truth help you to celebrate the gift of Jesus this Christmas?