

# Ambassadors

## Year 3 Lesson 26



# Sweeter Than Anything I Know

What do you think about when you hear the word SWEETER...cookies, donuts, cake, iced tea, a special friend? You may have even grown up hearing this song or singing it in church, but it is from many years ago. The song I'm referring to is "Sweeter Than Anything I

Know." Click here if you are interested in hearing it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0bj04YO8MU>

The best thing about this song is it is referring to Jesus Christ being sweeter than anything on this earth in comparison.



So as we explore the Book of Hebrews to find out how sweet our Jesus really is, I want you to take a quick poll. Please write down or think about your preferences in the blanks for the items below and be ready to share them with your Mentor.

- The best fast food restaurant: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best Pizza: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best car: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best Gospel song: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best Christian Hip Hop Group: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best sport to play: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best sport to watch: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best TV show to watch: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best clothing store: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best youth group activity: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best book you ever read: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best movie you watched: \_\_\_\_\_
- The best friend you have (had) \_\_\_\_\_
- The best subject in school: \_\_\_\_\_

Sugar is sweet but is also addictive, in a bad way. But God's Word should be addictive to us in a good and perfect way. Eating God's Word (reading it) and meditating on it is the "sweet" we should be addicted to because it gives us life. Once we begin to eat it, digest it and make it a part of our daily lives, it's something we cannot live without...we should crave it like we crave ice cream, cookies or cake!!

As you listed what you believe is the best, God wants **His** best for your life. In fact, He dedicated the whole book of Hebrews to explain to you why Jesus is the best, or as the song would say, "*Sweeter than anything I know.*" Let's check out Hebrews.

**AUTHOR:** Unlike the rest of the letters (books) in the New Testament, the book of Hebrews does not include the name of the author for us. Some Bible scholars believe the Apostle Paul wrote this book. But others think the writer was Luke, Barnabas, Apollos, Clement of Rome, Philip, or the husband and wife duo of Priscilla and Aquila (found in Acts).



While we don't know who exactly wrote Hebrews, its purpose in the Bible has not been questioned. It was part of the earliest writings of the Church and deemed very important in our understanding of who Jesus Christ is.

**WHO:** The people to whom Hebrews was written are not identified in the first few verses like other New Testament letters. But the content (what's being written), indicates this letter (Hebrews) was sent to those who were Jewish believers. The title plus the numerous references to Old Testament people, places, events and worship point to Jewish readers. We know they were believers in Jesus (Christians) as God's promised Messiah because the author called them "*brethren*" (Hebrews 3:1, 12) and "*beloved*" (Hebrews 6:9), which are affectionate terms for Christians.

**TIME PERIOD:** Bible scholars have dated this book around AD 64 to 69. The references to the sacrificial system indicate it was written before the destruction of the Temple which happened in AD 70, and that is when the sacrifices ended. Aren't you glad we no longer have to sacrifice anything to be forgiven of our sins?

**So What's Up With All this Info?** There are two major purposes for the Book of Hebrews. (1) To teach us that Christ is greater than any Old Testament Jewish religion or any form of religion today. (2) To persuade readers like you and me, not to ***abandon*** their relationship with Christ and ***go back to your old ways of living***. As an Ambassador, you don't give up your position just because of tough times, that God has not answered your prayers, or that God is not doing what you think He should be doing. That is why Hebrews gives us 5 warnings against specific sins.

## **DANGER ZONE**

There are 5 specific sins that the Book of Hebrews warns us against (Please look up and read each of these):

1. **Neglect** (2:1-4) Christians are not to ignore or disregard their relationship with God.
2. **Doubt** (3:7-4:13) Christians are to trust God's Word instead of developing hard hearts.



3. **Complacency (5:11-6:12)**. Christians are to grow in their faith and become mature in Christ instead of being satisfied with their present spiritual condition and staying spiritual babies.
4. **Willful continuance in sin (10:26-39)** Christians are not to sin deliberately (on purpose) or willfully (because I can).
5. **Refusal (12:25-29)** Christians are to listen to God, not refuse to hear Him.

## He's Sweeter

**SOME  
THIN  
BOU  
JESUS**

A key word that is used in the Book of Hebrews is **better**. Christ is better than anyone and anything God used to bring people to Himself in the past. He is better than the Old Testament prophets, better than angels, better than Moses, better than Joshua, and better than Aaron. The new covenant of Christ's death is better than the Mosaic covenant of Law. In the Book of Hebrews, Christians have the following sweeter things (although the word sweeter is not used but a comparison is made).

- *A sweeter spokesman (1:1-2)*
- *A sweeter messenger (1:4-14)*
- *A sweeter apostle, or one who is sent (3:1)*
- *A sweeter rest, or peace with God (4:1-11)*
- *A sweeter Priest (5:1-10)*
- *A sweeter hope (7:18-19)*
- *A sweeter covenant (6:13)*
- *A sweeter promise (11:39-40)*
- *A sweeter Church (9:11, 24)*
- *A sweeter sacrifice (9:12-10:18)*
- *A sweeter substance or possession (10:34-35)*
- *A sweeter Mediator between God and man (12:24)*

Ambassador, the Book of Hebrews was written to help you mature in your relationship with Christ. I hope you are ready to increase your growth experience! Why not read the whole book of Hebrews yourself?

You'll find out that Jesus is always **SWEETER!**

**Now click here to watch this Supplemental Video about your lesson:** <https://youtu.be/3kmFxUfnmOk>

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Click here if you are taking your quiz online, then send the email you receive to your mentor to grade and discuss: <https://forms.gle/BjaJD7rvjkzhN5Cv6>

Complete this assignment and set up a time to meet with an adult mentor who will go over this with you. Mentor, after you have graded this lesson using the Answer Key, please enter the lesson online using the links that were sent in order to receive credit. Thanks.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Reread Hebrews 1:1-2. Fill in the blanks below:

In the past God spoke to our \_\_\_\_\_ through the \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_, but in these last days He has spoken to \_\_\_\_\_ by His \_\_\_\_\_, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the \_\_\_\_\_. (according to the NIV)

2. What is significant about this change in the way God spoke to men?

3. How has God's speaking through His Son affected your life? List two or three specific ways.

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4. Hebrews was written to encourage Christians to mature and grow in their relationship with God. In what areas do you want to grow and mature in?

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5. Hebrews was written before what event?

6. What is a key word in the book of Hebrews?

7. List two better (sweeter) things we have through Christ.

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8. What are the two major purposes for the writing of Hebrews?

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9. Identify two sins the book of Hebrews warns against.

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10. What do you think a covenant is? (Your mentor can explain if you don't know)