Lesson 9
Hebrews 5:11-6:12

Read Hebrews 5:11-14

1. Why does the author of Hebrews feel he can't proceed with his discussion of Melchizedek?

2. Read Romans 3:21-22,1 Corinthians 1:30, 2 Corinthians 5:21, and Philippians 3:9. What do you learn in these verses about the "word of righteousness: (or "teaching about righteousness" in the NIV) that the author speaks of in Hebrews 5:13?

3. What do the words "trained by constant practice" in verse 14 convey? How do we distinguish good from evil in our world today?

4. Read Hebrews 6:1-3.
   a. What does the author include as "elementary" or "foundational" truths of faith? (v 1-2) Are there things in this list that surprise or seem odd to you?

   b. Read 1 Peter 3:15. What are the basic truths of your "hope" in Christ?

Read Hebrews 6:4-8. Verses 4-6 are difficult to understand, but it is necessary to study them in context and in light of scripture truths that are easier to understand or more straightforward.

5. Read John 6:39-40, John 10:27-30 and Romans 8:31-39. What do Jesus and Paul say about the possibility of a true believer falling away from salvation? Who, then, must the author of Hebrews be referring to in 6:6?

6. What are the ramifications of apostasy (an apostate is one who has renounced the faith) according to verses 6:4-6?

7. Read Hebrews 6:9-12.
   a. What reassurance does the author give in verse 9?

   b. What is God's response to the Hebrews' work, love and service (verse 10)? Can you think of other passages in Scripture that teach the close connection between faith and works?

8. Verse 12 speaks of imitating those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Has there been someone in your spiritual journey whom you have tried to imitate? If so, describe them. Let's ask the Holy Spirit to help us be good models for others to imitate.