

# REDEMPITIVE FAMILY

## Small Group Study 5 - Choosing to Lead Ourselves

**THE BIG IDEA:** If there are things to be done or behaviour that needs to change for our church to fully embrace its role as a redemptive family, the change needs to begin somewhere. If everyone waits for someone else to take the lead, change becomes impossible. We each need to take responsibility for our own life, whatever others might do; and if enough of us make the change, others will follow.

### OPEN

1. Can you recall a time when you chose to break with the crowd and do something different? Was it easy or hard for you to do?
  
2. When have you had to make sacrifices in order to do something you really wanted to do?

### DIG

*Read Hebrews 10:19-25*

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (NIV)

3. The first part of this passage emphasises our spiritual **independence**. We have direct personal access to God through Jesus our High Priest. Why is confidence in Jesus so important for our spiritual maturity?

4. The qualities of a spiritually mature person are sincerity, assurance, an untroubled conscience and keeping our bodies pure (v.22). Why are these important qualities if one is to lead oneself well?
  
5. The second part of this passage emphasises our spiritual **interdependence**. Despite everything Jesus has done for us we still need each other. What is the relationship between leading ourselves and encouraging others?
  
6. How might this passage relate to the spiritual growth of our church family?

## REFLECT

7. Why is it important that we not live in passive **dependence**, always waiting for others to take the lead?
  
8. How can this group be a role-model for behaviour that will help our church embrace its role as a redemptive family?