

## Draw Near > Hebrews 12:18-29

**12:18-21** *Sinai*. The author of **Hebrews** wants us to see the difference between the sort of religion offered by the first covenant, and what his new covenant has brought us into. The first covenant was characterized by distance: our sinfulness kept us from God's holiness. This led to our fear.

**12:22-24** *Zion*. But what Christ has called us into is a new covenant where we are brought near, where we draw close to our Lord and enjoy his blessing and presence forever.

**12:25-29** *Us*. How, then, are God's people to respond? First, we are to listen in such a way that we believe and respond in our living. Second, we are to worship the God whose astounding plan brings us near to him through Christ-given confidence rather than fear.

**Background:** These verses sum up the entire argument that we've been seeing throughout **Hebrews**: the new covenant that every Christian has been brought into by Christ's work versus the first covenant that could not make us holy.

**The Point:** Christ has brought us near to the father – not in fear of judgment, but in the joy of salvation.

**Head:** How does your thinking about Christ's work need to change to be characterized by joy rather than fear?

**Heart:** What wrong beliefs about the Lord and his calling on your life need to be corrected by the scriptures?

**Hands:** How can your attitude be marked by Christ's joy?

**Here is how I will apply these truths:** \_\_\_\_\_

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