"Hold Firm!"
Swartz Creek / Lads to Leaders
Family Bible Study - Week 22
Hebrews 9:1-6

Read the text in the NKJV. Suggested memory verses: 9:6-7. In lieu of *memorizing* the verses, read the assigned text every single day for a week.

## FOR ADULTS:

The main idea is: "The first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary."

Give the pieces of the furniture in the tabernacle (cf. Exodus 25 and Lev. 24:5-8):

What would be the spiritual counterpart, under the New Covenant, to each piece of furniture?

The Hebrew writer names three objects which were stored within the ark of the covenant (Exo. 26:33). What are they?

Research the history of those three unique objects (cf. Exo. 25:16; 16:33-34; Num. 17:1-7, 10):

Knowing what we know so far about the priesthood of Jesus Christ, from chapters 7 & 8, why does the writer of Hebrews mention that the priest "always went into the first part of the tabernacle..."? How does that contrast with the priesthood of Christ?

## FOR TEENS:

What is challenging in keeping the balance between your earthly home and your heavenly home?

For the Israelites, God's presence dwelt in the tabernacle. What are some practical ways that their experience with God differ from Christians'?

Instead of "covering" our sins, as animal sacrifices did, Christ's blood *removes* our sins. What is the difference? The word translated "mercy seat" in the Greek Old Testament is applied to *Jesus* in Romans 3:25 - "propitiation."

## FOR KIDS:

What might be some problems with the tabernacle as a place where God would dwell?

What are some problems with God dwelling in our hearts and lives?

The "mercy seat" was where blood was sprinkled from animal sacrifices (vs 5). For Christians, what reminds us of the mercy we have been shown through the blood of Christ?

Do you recall what happened to the curtain, at the death of Jesus, which separated the holy place from the most holy place in the tabernacle? What might that symbolize?

## FOR PRE-SCHOOL:

Look around your home. Describe the pieces of furniture you see. What purpose does each one serve?

Draw a picture of the pieces of furniture as they were placed in the tabernacle. Have your parents help you learn where each went.

Based on Ezekiel 1:5-13 and 10:10-14, draw a picture of a *cherub*.