

We Will Be an Encouraging People

January 31, 2021

Hebrews 10:11-25

What Kind of people are we to be?

Vision: Rejoicing as people come to life in Christ.

Mission: Building relationship that lead to Gospel transformation.

We will be a:

Rejoicing people

Engaging people

Discipling People

Encouraging people

This is where we are and where we are going the next seven years. You will be hearing this a lot.

We will walk thru Hebrews 10:19-25 this morning as we talk about being an encouraging people.

Here is some background of the chapter:

The writer of Hebrews tells and/or reminds the people that animal sacrifice is insufficient, tells them what God desires and tells them what God did for them (which is true of us).

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:19-22

All this was fairly “new” to the New Testament Church. No more animal sacrifice rather going directly to the Lord thru Jesus.

We (Believers) can now boldly enter the presence of Jesus. The Priest is no longer needed.

We can only enter His presence thru The Blood (no merit of our own).

All because who God is and what He has done thru Jesus.

Nothing we have done at all.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Hebrews 10:23

Not to hold fast to our “faith” or our “salvation”, God does that. Rather hold fast to the hope that God provides.

"The true way for a Christian to live is to live entirely upon Christ. Christians have experiences and they have feelings, but, if they are wise, they never feed upon these things, but upon Christ, Himself."

~ Charles Spurgeon

Our hope is solely in what Christ has done for us and nothing we have done.

The ‘confession of our faith’ is that solemn acknowledgment which is made by a person when he publicly claims to be a Christian. It is the avowal that he has renounced the world, the flesh, and the devil, for Christ. It is the declaration that he disowns his own wisdom, righteousness and will, and receives the Lord Jesus as his Prophet, Priest and King: his Prophet to instruct him in the will of God, his Priest to meet for him the claims of God, his King to administer in and over him the government of God. It is the owning that he hates sin and desires to be delivered from its power and penalty; that he loves holiness and longs to be conformed to the image of God's Son. It is the claiming that he has thrown down the weapons of his warfare against God, and has now completely surrendered to His just demands upon him. It is the testification that he is prepared to deny self, take up his cross daily, and follow that example which Christ has left him as to how to *live for God* in this world. In a word, it is the publishing abroad that he has from his very heart ‘received Christ Jesus *the Lord*’ (Col. 2:6). And let it be said plainly and emphatically, that no one acknowledging less than this is *scripturally* entitled to be regarded as a Christian. ~ **Warren Wiersbe**

To hold fast the confession of our faith, implied to continue in the process moving forward. In spite of difficulty, pain, heartache, etc. we are to preserve.

To believe is not just an acknowledgment or a confession (Demons do that), but a commitment and a covenant (New Testament).

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ...

Hebrews 10:24

Set your eyes, don't look back look forward.

Interesting to note that the emphasis here is not on what a believer gets from the assembly, but rather on what he can contribute to the assembly. Faithfulness in church attendance challenges and provokes others to love and to do good works.

"'And let us consider one another.' There are no fewer than eleven Greek words used in the N. T. which are all rendered by our one English term 'consider': four of them being simple verbs, and seven of them compounds for the purpose of particular emphasis. 'And let us consider one another:' let us diligently bear in mind and continually have in view the good of our fellow-pilgrims. The term 'consider' is very emphatic, being the same as in Hebrews 3:1, where we are bidden to 'Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession Christ Jesus.' Here it signifies a conscientious care and circumspection over the spiritual estate and welfare of other Christians. They are brethren and sisters in Christ, members of the same family: a tie far nearer and dearer than any earthly one unites you to them and them to you. 'Consider' not only their blessed relation to you, but also their circumstances, their trials, their temptations, their infirmities, their needs. Seek grace to be of service, of help, of blessing to them. Remember that they have their conflicts too, their discouragements, their falls: 'Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down and the feeble knees' (Heb. 12:12). 'And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.' Here is expressed the chief design or end of our consideration for one another: it is to provoke or stir up unto the performance of duties; to strengthen zeal, to inflame affections, to excite unto Godly living. We are to provoke one another by means of a Godly example, by suitable exhortations, by unselfish acts of kindness. We are to fire one another 'unto love,' which is not a mere sentiment or natural affability, but a holy principle of action, which seeks the highest good of its object. Christian love is righteous, and never winks at sin; it is faithful, which shrinks not from warning or rebuking where such is necessary. 'And good works' is to be the issue, the fruit, of godly love. 'And this is love, that we walk after His commandments' (2 John 6). The relation between this exhortation in v. 24 and the one in v. 23 is very intimate. Love and good works are both the effects and evidences of the sincere confession of saving faith, and therefore a diligent attendance unto them is an essential means of constancy in our confession. Christian perseverance is nothing less than a continuance in practical godliness, in the path of obedience to Christ and love unto His brethren. Therefore are we called upon to watch over one another with a view to steadfastness in the faith and fruitfulness in our lives. No Christian liveth unto himself (Rom. 14:7): each one of us is either a help or a hindrance, a blessing or a curse unto those we associate with. *Which* is it? The Lord stir up both writer and reader to a more unselfish and loving concern for the spiritual good of those who are fellow-members of the same Body". ~ **Warren Wiersbe**

We gather to worship the Lord first and foremost. As a part of our worship we are also here to encourage others and then to feed our soul.

Looking back, drawing back, turning back and a falling back.

... ***not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*** **Hebrews 10:25**

Forsake not – strong and emphatic one being a double compound and signifies “to abandon in time of danger.” *My God why have you forsaken me.*

The gathering of God's Church:

- Your **Presence**
- Your **Prayers**
- Your **Place**
- Your **Position**
- Your **Posture**

To not see God's people (Church) as important and needed is a sin. To see God's Church as optional is wrong and to not gather with God's church is to disagree with God. What He said is important.

This is my family! I need my family, I need encouragement.

Be it how imperfect it is, how beautiful is the Body of Christ.

Prayer Focus:

- **Commit to the Lord.**
- **Commit to encourage.**
- **Commit to gather.**