



Stay Close

Lesson Five • Hebrews 10:24-25

Confidence to Enter into God's Holy Presence Is Shown by Taking Bold Action to STAY CLOSE as New Covenant Believer-Priests!

"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25

➤ Where are we in the context of **Chapter 10**?

As believer-priests...

Who have complete confidence to enter into the most holy place... (10:19)

By means of wrath-satisfying blood of Jesus.... (10:20)

On the basis of the sinless mediation of our great high priest and ruler over us as God's people... (10:21)

We take bold action to...

DRAW NEAR to God's holy presence with sincere hearts in the full assurance of faith... (10:22)

HOLD FAST to this hope we profess, because God is a faithful promise keeper... (10:23)

STAY CLOSE to one another, because the Day of Christ's drawing near is fast approaching. (10:24-25)

➤ What's the **same** in verses 24-25 and what's **different**?

What's the Big Idea? **Assembly REQUIRED!**

As Believer-Priests...stay close by assembling together in loving fellowship and encouraging worship, because the Day of His assembling us together is fast approaching!

Three Exhortations for Staying Close to One Another

1. **MOTIVATING** One Another to Love & Good Works Requires Assembly.

"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds...." Hebrews 10:24; 6:7-12; 13:1-5

As Believer-Priests Our Duty and Delight Is to...

➤ **SHOW** our love for one another by doing good to one another.

"and let us...love and [do] good deeds...."

Love is the **motive** and good works are the **manifestation!**

➤ **STIR UP** one another in this process.

"and let us...stimulate one another to love and good deeds...."

"Christ calls His followers to bring out the best in each other." – Albert Mohler

"Be positive irritants!" –R. Kent Hughes,

➤ **SPEND TIME** together reflecting on how to keep doing this for one another personally and congregationally.

"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds...."

2. MEETING WITH One Another for Worship & Fellowship Requires Assembly.

"not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...." Hebrews 10:25

- Your **PRESENCE** is required **and** encouraging.

*"If you can miss church without being missed at church, something is missing.
And if you can miss church without missing church, something is missing." – H. B. Charles*

- Your **PARTICIPATION** is required **and** encouraging.

What is at stake when we "forsake our own assembling together"?

"Any early Christian who attempted to live like a pious particle without the support of the community ran serious risks in an age when there was no public opinion to support him. His isolation, whatever his motive...exposed him to the danger of losing his faith altogether." – Scottish Theologian James Moffatt

What is the difference between "just going to church" and "assembling together"?

What might cause us to stop meeting together as God's people for worship and fellowship?

The EXACT SAME THINGS that Might Cause Us to Waver in Holding Fast to the Hope We Profess.			
Persisting in Willful Sin 10:26-31; 3:12; 12:15-17	Ongoing Suffering 10:32	Increasing Persecution 10:33-34	Drifting into Apathy 2:1-4; 5:12

"Christian perseverance is thus also a community endeavor." – ESV Study Bible

"The New Testament lends no support to the idea of lone Christians. Close and regular fellowship with other believers is not just a nice idea, but an absolute necessity for the encouragement of Christian values." – Donald Guthrie

3. MANIFESTING Our Hope in Christ's Soon Return Requires Assembly.

"and all the more as you see the day drawing near." Hebrews 10:25

"Each local church, as it gathers, shouts a defiant "No!" to the Christ-defying culture around it." – John Gillespie

Our Assembling Together on the Lord's Day...

- **PICTURES** His assembling us together on the Day of the Lord. *2Thessalonians 2:1-2*
- **PROMOTES** our desire to assemble together with all God's people in the coming Kingdom. *Hebrews 12:22-24*
- **PURIFIES** us while there is still time to press on to maturity before that Day comes. *Hebrews 3:12-15; 12:14; 1 John 3:2-3*
- **PREPARES** us to persevere in living lives that please Him on that Day we give an account. *Heb 12:12-17; 13:7, 17, 20-21*
"The main thing, however, is that the writer is stressing the accountability of his readers. They must act toward their fellow believers as those who will give account of themselves to God." – Leon Morris
- **PROMPTS** us to invite others to become Kingdom people before it's too late.

"I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find until death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside. I must make it the main object of my life to press on to that other country and to help others to do the same;" – C. S. Lewis

As Believer-Priests...STAY CLOSE by ASSEMBLING TOGETHER in loving fellowship and encouraging worship, because the Day of His assembling us together is fast approaching!