

“A community of commitment” – Hebrews 10:19-25

Starter

As we continue to build community with our Life Groups, please feel free to build relationship with each other by catching up and/or playing a quick game. Make sure that any new members of your group feel especially welcomed in.

Introduction

Si shared this quote from Tim Keller:

“Everyone says they want community and friendship. But mention accountability or commitment to people, and they run the other way.”

Do you have experience of this statement? More so or less so since March? Do you feel like this is something you could do better at yourself?

Read Hebrews 10:19-25. Does anything stand out to you from this passage? What would a community that enacted verses 24-25 look like?

Digging In

Si had a pyramid of points on Sunday: 1 “therefore”, 2 “since”s, and 3 “let us”s. As Si noted, we have to look for what the “therefore” is there for. In this instance, the “therefore” is at the start of Paul’s argument but references the “since”s and the “let us”s; *because of the “since”s, “let us” do the following things.*

Since 1 - “since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh”

Read Heb 10:1-10. This passage links to the first “since” in our passage. In the discussions, try to draw out that Jesus’ sacrifice has enabled us to come to the Father through the sacrifice of his flesh.

- **What were the sacrifices made under the Law meant to achieve?** *Make us right with God, allow us to come into God’s presence. In Leviticus 16, God decrees that the High Priest must make a sacrifice of a bull to come into the Holy Place.*
- **What evidence does Paul point to that they could not do this perfectly, once and for all?** *They had to carry out these sacrifices year after year.*
- Paul states that by Jesus coming (verse 7), he does away with the old order (the Law) to establish the new (grace). **How does Jesus’ sacrifice atone for us once and for all?** *By the sacrifice of one who had done no wrong, he is able to take our sins (see 2 Cor 5:21, Isa 53:4-5)*

Since 2 - “since we have a great priest over the house of God”

Read Heb 10:11-14. This passage mentions how Jesus achieved with one sacrifice what earthly priests could not with repeated sacrifices. **Read Heb 8:1-7.**

- **What are the “better promises” that are described in verse 6?** *We have been promised grace for our sins; where we are made right by confessing our sins to God rather than sacrifices.*

For the following “let us”s, discuss as a group

- **How can we do this at the moment?**
- **What do the fruits of this look like?**

Let us 1 - “let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water”

Let us 2 - “let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering for he who promised is faithful”

Let us 3 - “let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works”

Growing together

Si quoted Eugene Peterson, including the phrase *“there can be no maturity in the spiritual life, no obedience in following Jesus, no wholeness in the Christian life apart from immersion and embrace of community”.* **How do you feel about this statement? Do you see it borne out?**

Pray together as a group:

- *Pray for life groups, that they would grow us as community.*
- *Pray for our leaders*
- *Pray for the blessing of spiritual gifts for each other*
- *Pray for Alpha*