

Sermon Discussion Guide, Hebrews 10:19-25

May 7



LIVING in Fellowship

Getting Started- Life Updates, Prayer Requests & Opening Question (15 min)

- Anything to share since you last met last week? Joys or concerns? (Note them below for prayer later). Any experiences in seeking to apply last week's message on *Reading Scripture*, 2 Timothy 3:14-17?

Opener Question: What makes Sundays special to you?

➤ Review the Sermon (15 min)

Would a volunteer please read aloud the sermon scripture, Hebrews 10:19-25. Know that it is ok to skip some questions below in order to manage the time for discussions in each section.

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- If you had to give a one-minute summary of the sermon message this week, what would you say?
- Where you surprised that 21% of self-defined Christians in Houston are not attending Church or haven't in the last 6 months?
- How about 78% of these claiming a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is still important in their life today compared to 45% average?
- Why was the Sabbath moved from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week?
- How is the New Covenant that Jesus brings as high priest, better than the old covenant of the law?
- What Biblical commands do you know of that can only be fulfilled while in community in the body of Christ?
- Hebrews 10:25 uses the word "meeting" together or "synagoguing" together. What do you think is meant by this?
- How does regularly participating in worship help keep a strong moral compass for someone?
- What points did you take away from Christian author John Eldridge's parable of the sea lion in the watering hole in the desert with the tortoise?

- Hebrews 2:1 says, “We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.” How is it that drifting away from a regular connection with the body of Christ can so easily turn into a long season?

Other Related Readings (10 min)

- Would a volunteer please read aloud Acts 2:42-47.
- What core components or functions of church can you identify in these verses?
- How does this picture of the early church compare with a typical church attendees experience with the church in the U.S. today?
- The word for fellowship, koinonia, has the root word for “common,” koine. It is the same word for the common language of Greek at the time, “koine” Greek. What do you think needs to be held “in common” for people to share in Christian fellowship together?
- What do you think most commonly keeps people from fully participating in the church today?

Personalizing and Applying the Message (10 min)

- As you reflect upon the sermon and the scripture readings above, what are points of encouragement or challenge for you personally?
- How might God use us to help re-write the story of those who are prejudiced against the church or feel injured by it?
- Even if a worship service has terrible music and a confusing sermon, what good would still come from participating in worship?
- What do you think is the most important thing that should happen at church?
- In what ways can we stir up others to love and good works this week?
- Would you be willing to memorize Hebrews 10:23?

Witness & Closing Prayer (5-10 min)

- Who in our lives that does not appear to have a close relationship with Christ or the church would we consider inviting to come to church with us this Sunday?
- A volunteer may lead the group in prayer about the joys or concerns shared earlier in the meeting and others as well.