

Unwavering Hope

Hebrews 10:19-25

1. Confidence in Christ= Drawing Near To God vs. 19-22

We live in confidence that Jesus' death and resurrection changes everything. Through Jesus' sacrifice, those who commit to Christ experience being atoned for their sins which opens the only way to draw near to God and begin a new way of living life.

2. Comfort in God's Promises= Professing Our Hope vs. 23

Faith is "the assurance of things hoped for." (Heb. 11:1). The promises of God are the foundation of the hope which causes our faith to be strong must be professed to allow our hope to be unwavering.

"This hope in us, like the faith from which it springs, being full of joyous assurance, cannot remain" silent; "it must speak and give a reason both to friends and enemies of its own existence." - Delitzsch

3. Community of Believers= Encouragement Through Fellowship vs. 24-25

When there is a weak relationship to the church family, there becomes a weakness in our relationship with God. Faith, Hope and Love grow and are secured when we choose to be intentional with the church family; spurring each other to love and good deeds as we look forward to the day when Jesus returns.

Reflection:

- Question to ask on a daily basis: What am I yearning today? Is my focus like Moses (Exodus 33:11-13)? "Teach me your ways so that I may know you and continue to find favor with you". Am I choosing to draw near to God? Or is my focus like Solomon (1 Kings 11:1-6), whose heart was divided as he turned after other gods?
- George Guthrie writes, "If we are to draw near to God, our yearnings must be cultivated in the right direction because, if they are not, our culture will consume us, siphoning off our energies, our desires." If we are not careful, how might our culture consume us? What should a disciple of Jesus intentionally do to help cultivate their yearnings to be focused on drawing near to God?
- After reading Hebrews 10:24-25, ask yourself, "to whom in the body of Christ am I giving encouragement this day or this week by my presence, my actions, and my words? Am I receiving encouragement by remaining faithful with the church family?"

- *What are some ways that Christians have helped to stir you up to love and good works? How would you like to be stirred up more in your Christian life? How is 'encouragement' related to this?*
- *We're commanded to 'consider' how to stir each other up. Meaning, we're to give thought and planning to it. How can you be more intentional in stirring others up?*