



## Pilgrim Home Baptist Church

NT 260 2022 • LOVE ONE ANOTHER • HEBREWS 10:19-25 • 8/14/2022

### MAIN POINT

God designed the church to help each other grow in love and Christlikeness.

### INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

**If someone were to give you \$1,000,000 for no apparent reason, would you have any trouble giving away \$100 to a person in need? Why or why not?**

**How does reflecting on God's enormous amount of love shown toward us help us love one another?**

**How does the work of Jesus bind Christians together as a family?**

Christians have experienced love in a way that non-Christians have not. We have been transformed by the love God has for us in Christ Jesus. This love is the defining bond that creates and holds believers together as a family. The work of Jesus is so powerful that it makes family out of strangers, people with cultural, preferential, generational, and racial differences. The most important thing in every believer's life is Jesus. That is how we are eternally bound together as family. We may not all like sports, art, or board games, but we all deeply love Jesus. Some of us may like Star Wars; others may think Star Wars and Star Trek are the same thing. Even so, if we know Jesus, we have the most important thing in common.

### UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ HEBREWS 10:19-23.

**What does it look like to enter God's presence with "boldness"? According to Scripture, how are able to do this?**

**Who is our great high priest?**

**What can we now do together because of the work of Jesus?**

**What are some things in life that are absolutely unsure?**

**What does it do in your heart to know we can draw near to God with full assurance?**

**According to verse 23, what is the "confession of our hope"?**

**In this verse, where do we find our hope: in our ability to hold fast or in the One who is faithful? Explain the danger of confusing the foundation of our hope.**

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ HEBREWS 10:24-25.

Now that we have seen what God has done for us in Christ, we can turn our attention to the effect of the Gospel on our lives in relation to each other. We now have a foundation to love each other with brotherly affection. Notice how the church is supposed to respond. We are to give to each other the very same love we have experienced from God.

**What are examples of how we can be "concerned about one another"? What is the difference between brotherly love and nosiness?**

**How is "stirring up one another" an act of brotherly love in itself?**

**Why is it important to regularly gather together?**

**How would this passage address the Christian, who says, "I love Jesus; I just don't need the church"?**

## APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

**What has God personally done for you in Christ? From what did God rescue you?**

**How will your appreciation for God's grace lead you to show grace to others this week? Give examples of situations you might face where you will need to show love and grace to those around you.**

**What are some practical ways we can show affection this week?**

**How can you practically support the body of believers, your brothers and sisters in Christ? In what ways can you motivate them toward love and good works?**

## PRAYER

Father, thank you for how you have loved us. Thank you for sending Your Son to cleanse us! Help us this week to take the grace we have experienced from You and lavish it on others.

## COMMENTARY

| HEBREWS 10:19-25

10:19. We experience Christ's power by drawing near to God, maintaining our faith, and loving other believers. "Therefore" emphasizes that in view of what Jesus has done, believers can approach God with confidence. "Confidence" describes a boldness believers have because of our new relationship to God. "The Most Holy Place" was that part of the sanctuary which symbolized the presence of God. This verse uses the term not for the tabernacle but for the presence of God. All believers can come to God's presence. This privilege is no longer limited to the priesthood. Believers can approach God because of the blood of Jesus. Not animal sacrifice but Jesus' sacrifice of Himself has opened the door. All who have found a new relationship to God through Jesus can experience this privilege.

10:20-21 We have the boldness to enter into the holiest place because Jesus has opened for us a new and living way. He serves as our great priest to encourage us to enter God's presence. Christ's way to the Father is new because he opened it by his death. The resurrection of the sacrificed One has made the way living, or effective and enduring. "Curtain" refers to the veil that stood between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. In Hebrews it becomes a symbol of Jesus' human life. As a human being, Jesus opened up a new way to God. Jesus presented his human life to God to bring us to him. Jesus' human life and sacrificial death have made the Most Holy Place wide open so believers can enter directly into God's presence. This was part of Jesus' high priestly service.

10:22. We can now approach God and have the mercy and grace of our High Priest standing over us. How? First, we are to come with a sincere heart. This calls for genuine devotion rather than hypocrisy. Second, we are to come in full assurance of faith. This demands a bold confidence that God has provided full access to his presence through Christ alone. Third, we are to have our hearts sprinkled from a guilty conscience. This demands constant confession of our sins and openness to God. Finally we are to have our bodies washed with pure water. This may

be a reference to baptism as an outward commitment to Christ, or it might be symbolic as is the previous reference to hearts sprinkled with blood. If it is symbolic, the hearts sprinkled from a guilty conscience would picture our salvation, and our bodies washed would symbolize a righteous lifestyle. In this new state of purity made possible by Jesus, believers can come boldly to God and claim his grace and mercy.

10:23. This exhortation appeals to us to maintain spiritual consistency. We are urged to hold firmly to the hope we profess. This hope offers glory which beamed more brightly than the glories of the old order. "Unswervingly" denotes an object which stands absolutely straight, not departing from the perpendicular. We are to lay hold of Christ and never let go, even in the slightest. No persecution, real or feared, was to lessen the ardor of these believers for Christ.

10:24-25. This exhortation calls us to responsibility to one another. The appeal to consider demands concentrated attention. The goal of this attention was to spur one another on toward love and good deeds. As Christians we have a corporate responsibility. We must help others who stumble and falter. We must concentrate on the needs of others and not on our individual salvation only. To spur other believers forward in the Christian life, followers of Christ must meet together. Some of the readers of Hebrews were neglecting to meet together for worship, and this limited their ability to give and receive encouragement toward good works. Christians who meet together with the aim of promoting godliness and love for one another can be remarkably successful in their ventures.