

## Sermon Discussion

### 03 May 2020

Hebrews 10:22-25 (read)

*...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. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

#### **Dig Deeper**

Three times the writer of Hebrews exhorts his audience with the words “Let us” (vv. 22, 23, 24). And each time the writer refers to one of the three cardinal Christian virtues: “faith,” “hope,” and “love” (vv. 22, 23, 24). First, he urges true knowledge and worship of God. The basis for this exhortation is that Christ, our Great High Priest, authorizes us to enter God’s heavenly presence through his blood (vv. 19–21). Second, he urges perseverance. God will never fail us; therefore, we must be steadfast to the end in faith, holiness, and love. Third, he urges love. They are to continue caring for each other, whatever the cost.

Here the Lord assures us of our acceptance through Christ that leads us to know and worship God; to persevere in believing the gospel, even in difficult times; and to show practical care for one another. By underscoring the grace of God in the work of Christ, our Great High Priest, Hebrews seeks to motivate us in faith, hope, and love.

1. What does it mean to spur someone on? What examples did you draw from this weekend’s message?
2. The use of the word “spur” captures the original language’s sense of a visceral, sudden action designed to provoke an immediate response. Why do you think the writer of Hebrew’s is calling for such drastic measures?
3. When have you needed someone to provoke you toward deeds of love and service? When has God used you to light a fire under someone?
4. In Hebrews 10:19-25, the author uses “we”, “our”, or “us” 10 different times! As a result, what practical steps can you take this week to both invest in and lean on the spiritual community that God has provided you?

#### **Application**

- If you know of a believer who is drifting from the Lord, how can you know whether you should get involved? How would you go about encouraging him/her in love?

- Take some time to listen to the joys and struggles of each of the members of your group this week. How can you “spur” one another on? How can you offer a word of encouragement?
- In what way might a community that spurs one another “toward love and good deeds” bear witness to God’s love?

**Pray**

While reflecting on God’s work in your life in the past and His promises to you in the future, ask how God might provide you confidence in the midst of present adversity.