



Stir Up One Another to Love and Good Works

HEBREWS 10:24



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WELCOME:

Fixing Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

Ask each GG member to share an experience when they were able to succeed because of an encouragement they received from a friend.

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested songs:

Way Maker

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WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

- 1. GG members will praise and thank Christ for granting them direct access to God.
- GG members will commit to fellowshipping and encouraging each other to do good works.

INTRODUCTION

In Hebrews 10:19-25, the author reminds the Jewish believers that Christ has paved the way for them to confidently enter God's presence by offering his flesh and blood as an atoning sacrifice on the cross (vv. 19-20). On top of that, Christ also acts as their great high priest who intercedes to God for them for all eternity (v. 21; cf. Hebrews. 7:23-25). Because of this confidence to enter God's presence, the author gives his audience three exhortations: let us draw near to God (v. 22), let us hold fast to our hope (v. 23), and let us stir up one another to love and good works (vv. 24-25). In this lesson, we will focus on the third exhortation.

The author reminded believers of their confidence to enter God's presence (vv. 19-21)

The author summarizes his arguments from chapter 7 up to 10:18, showing that Jesus is superior to the Levitical priesthood, the new covenant in his blood is superior to the Mosaic covenant, and his atoning sacrifice on the cross is superior to the Old Testament sacrificial system. Through his finished work on the cross, he opened up a "new and living way" into God's presence.

- 1. What are the "holy places" the author was referring to? Why was access to these places restricted? (cf. Exodus 26:33-34; Leviticus 16:2-3)
- 2. How did Jesus' flesh and blood provide a new way into the "holy places"? (cf. Mark 15:37-38; Hebrews 9:12-14; 10:14)
- 3. Why is Jesus considered the "great priest"? (cf. Hebrews 7:17, 21-25)

Application

Since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, humankind has been separated from God. Christ's finished work on the cross changed this and provided a way for humanity to gain access to God once again. What does it mean to you that you have direct access to God?

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WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

The author exhorted believers to stir each other to love and good works (vv. 24-25)

Because Jesus has granted believers direct access to God, they should stir each other to love and good works. This is one of the results of a believer's salvation, that they walk in the good works that God has prepared for them (cf. Ephesians 2:8-10). Satan and the world will do their best to discourage believers, so believers need to encourage each other as they anticipate Christ's return and the completion of their salvation.

- 1. The Greek word paroxysmos, translated as "stir up", also means to provoke or to irritate. The author was exhorting the believers to provoke each other to love and good works. How is this provocation different from the one found in Galatians 5:26?
- 2. Why is it important for believers to stir each other to love (cf. Matthew 22:37-40; John 13:34-35) and do good works (cf. Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:10; Titus 3:8)?
- 3. What are two examples given by the author of how believers stir each other to love and good works?
- 4. What is the hope and anticipation of believers as they continue to stir each other?

Application

What are some ways you can stir up fellow believers to love and good works - at home and at work?

PRAYER ITEM

Lord, thank you for your finished work on the cross. Because of this, I have confidence to approach you in prayer. May I do so with purity of heart as I confess my sins before you and with the unwavering hope that you will return to establish your kingdom and reward your followers. Use me, Lord, to encourage fellow believers as we face trials and tribulations in this life, knowing that all this will one day pass away. In Christ's name, I pray. Amen. ■



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