

Spiritual Growth Questions for October 11, 2020

(take one question each day and grow deeper in Bible study)

Opener: Which part of Hebrews 10:19-25 is the most difficult part for you to embrace? Why?

1. **Read Hebrews 10:19-21.** What two facts does the writer of Hebrews want his readers to understand. Why are these two truths so key to a strong faith confession?
2. **Read Hebrews 4:14-16 and 10:22.** What correlations do you see between the two passages? Why is the emphasis on cleansing so important to a strong faith confession? How can we have full assurance that we have this cleansing?
3. **Read Hebrews 10:23.** What is the confession of our hope? Why is it imperative that we not lose this confession? What role does God's faithfulness play in our holding on to our confession? What role do God's promises play in encouraging believers? Where in Scripture do you see God fulfilling his promises? How do these instances encourage you to hold on?
4. **Read Hebrews 10:24-25.** Why does a Christian need the church? What does the church offer to an individual believer that he/she cannot get elsewhere on their own? How does the local church help us stay strong in our confession of faith? How could it help us implement verse 24? What does 'see the Day drawing near' mean in verse 25?

Scripture: Read the passage three times with an open heart and ask the Lord Jesus to speak to you.

Observation: Write down what you see in this passage. Make as many observations as you can.

Application: Write down how you will be different because of what you have just read. Look for lessons to be learned, examples to be followed and promises to be enjoyed. How is Jesus revealed?

Prayer: Write out a short prayer.

II. Read the following scriptures: Hebrews 10:19-25, I Peter 1: 3-8.

Choose one of the above passages and apply the S.O.A.P. study method. Which one of these passages could we pray for you this week? Who could you be praying one of these passages for this week?

Prayer: Look back over your study of the book of Hebrews. What aspect of the finished work of Jesus Christ as our sacrifice and high priest has meant the most to you? Give thanks to God in prayer for all He has done!

Better with Jesus: A Study of the Book of Hebrews
Our Strong Faith Confession: A Better Way
Hebrews 10:19-25. October 11, 2020
Pastor John Lloyd

The book of Hebrews presents the greatness of Christ like no other New Testament writing. The author knew that by remembering and lifting up Jesus, he would help the readers endure their difficult circumstances. As this book is read, it demands a response. This Sunday we will focus on having a strong faith confession. The writer of Hebrews is summarizing the last three chapters by saying that since we have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus and that He is our great high priest, then let us draw near no matter what may come our way. Let us hold unswervingly onto hope because God is faithful. Let us not let anything take away our strong faith confession. May we think of ways to stir each other up to keep meeting together and ministering in love to those around us. Jesus is coming soon! Jesus lived, died, rose and is coming again!

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 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.

Big Idea: Our strong faith confession believes, hopes and serves in community.

Review Two Facts: Believers are cleansed by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus is our great high priest and advocate in heaven. Heb.10:19-21

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

Our confession: I Timothy 1:15 This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all. 16 But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

Jesus Christ came to save sinners! Jesus came to save you and to save me.

I. We have deep confidence in our _____ to God.

Hebrews 10:22 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.

How? With a clean heart and conscience!

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,

New and living way- newly slain versus old-slain road. The freshly slain road into the Holy of Holies of heaven sprinkled with the blood of the lamb.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Hebrews 10:22

James 4:8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Fountain filled with Blood by William Cowper

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains.

Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Our response: Pray for God to show each of us how to begin or keep walking nearer to Jesus. He has done His part by bringing us closer to God. **Ask God to show you what is blocking your relationship with Him.** Pray Psalm 139:23-24, Hebrews 12:2, Psalm 51:10, Proverbs 23:26. Make these passages your own.

**Drawing near to God is the way to a strong faith confession!
Choose to draw near to God!**

II. Holding onto the _____ of hope is better.

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful

1Thessalonians 5:24 The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. New Living Translation

Hebrews 11:11 By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood

Our lives are controlled by the hope we profess. D.A. Carson

Our Response: Consider how hope is anchored to the promises of God and His faithfulness to those promises. Increasing your intake of the promises produces hope. (See Romans 15:4, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 6:18, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Titus 1:2)

Jesus gives a better way to think. Choose and Confess Hope! He is faithful!

III. Living out your faith in _____ brings your confession to life.

Hebrews 10:24 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.

10:24 *Stir up one another* – attentive and continuous care. Take careful note of each other's spiritual welfare. Wuest

Ephesians 3:18 May have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth. Romans 1:12

"Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I will not forget you."
William Arthur Ward

10:25 *Neglecting* – to let down, abandon.

Reasons to go to church: Ontology, Doxology, Theology, Psychology

Notice the emphasis here is not on what a believer gets from the assembly, but rather on what he can contribute to the assembly. Warren Wiersbe

How can we stir one another up for godly living? How can we not give up meeting together?

Why? "The Day is drawing near." Jesus is coming again!

**Jesus gives us a better way to live: serving each other in community!
Choose to be in community and serve one another.**