

Why the Church

LifeGroup Lesson

April 30, 2017

Hebrews 10:23-25

OPENING PRAYER:

Come, O Holy Spirit, Come!
Come like Holy Fire and burn with us.
Come like Holy Wind and cleanse us.
Come like Holy Light and lead us.
Come like Holy Truth and teach us.
Come like Holy Love and enfold us.
Come like Holy Power and enable us.
Come as Abundant Life and Fill us,
Convert us,
Consecrate us,
Until we are wholly thine.
Come, Holy Spirit, Come!
--A Prayer of the Ancient Church

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the LifeTalk this week?
- Describe your perfect Sunday morning? Describe your perfect worship service?
- What is your earliest memory of church? When you think of church (corporate worship) what images run through your mind?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Modern culture emphasizes that we don't need to go to church to find a spiritual base. Yet as Christians, going to church is more of a 'given' than an option. Today we look at the many biblical reasons why we go to church. Read Hebrews 10:19-39.

- What part jumps out at you in this chapter?
- What steps can you take to encourage another Christian to love and good works?
- What does this scripture teach you about the nature of the church? How can you live this out in your life?
- Who are you missing at church? How will you reach out to them this week?

Read the following scriptures on the importance of corporate worship --- the church. Matthew 18:19-20, Colossians 3:12-17, Acts 2:42-47, Proverbs 27:17.

- What does each passage say about worshipping with others? What can we learn/benefit from corporate worship? Does this reason outweigh the weight/responsibility?
- Matthew 28:19-20 – What is the correlation between 'Making disciples' and 'being a community?'
- Acts 9:31 – What does it mean to 'fear the Lord' as a community and not solo?

CLOSING POSSIBILITIES:

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or LifeTalk?
- How can the group pray for you this week?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

O love ever burning and never extinguished charity
My God set me on fire.
– Saint Augustine of Hippo, North Africa