

The Church Is...Better Together

Scripture: Hebrews 10:19-25

Also: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Matthew 27:51-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Questions

1. Read Hebrews 10:19-25
2. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
3. How has this sermon challenged you to think about regular participation in a local church?
4. What was your response to it - did it anger you, encourage you, annoy you, etc.? Why?
5. The main point of the sermon was that "Our faith in Jesus is personal but it is never private," indicating that our faith was never meant to be lived out alone.
 - How do you tend to live faith out on your own?
 - In what areas of faith and life are you more isolated than in community?
6. What does it look like to have "confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus"? (v. 19-22)
 - How does a person get that kind of confidence?
 - If you think through different facets of your life (family, work, leisure, etc.), where is Jesus-centered confidence evident in you?
 - Where is it not present, or less present?
7. How would you describe to someone why we followers of Jesus should cherish Christ's Church?
8. How does gathering together with the church stir you up to love?
 - If gathering with the church annoys you, bores you, frustrates you (or stirs any other negative emotion), how can you use that to stir you to love the church?
 - How does it affect you if you think of the church as individuals (think of specific people/faces) rather than just a big, impersonal group?
9. What space does contemplating Christ's return have in your life? In your conversation with other believers?
 - ***What step can you take this week to, by the Spirit's power, improve one thing about your relationship with the local church?***