

## Experiencing True Fellowship

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

Hebrews 10:24-25

#### Discussion Questions

1. How important are church and Christian fellowship to you? Share with the group.
2. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. The book of Hebrews is a letter written to Jewish Christians who were becoming tired of their faith and ready to walk away for various reasons, including persecution. The writer wrote this letter to challenge these believers to hang on and not give up. He wanted them to know that what they have in the Lord Jesus Christ is better than anything they think or have experienced before. What does the passage tell you to do to help you persevere in faith? What kind of behavior should Christians demonstrate toward one another?
3. There are three biblical reasons why Christian fellowship is a requirement for every follower of Jesus Christ. First, fellowship shows that we care for the Lord's people. What does verse 24 command Christians to do? All believers are to set their minds on the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be strong, stable and secure, but how does holding one another up help Christians to stand against the storms of life that assault those whose faith is in Jesus Christ? Discuss how believers could best spur each other "to love and good works."

4. Second, fellowship shows that we obey the Lord's command. Verse 25 teaches that as a follower of Jesus Christ, your presence and participation in fellowship is mandatory. Discuss why many people who claim that they are Christians don't go to church. How does habitual absence in church become regular? Verse 25 also calls for more than just your presence in the church. It calls for your participation. Discuss ways in which you can forsake fellowship even though you attend the worship meetings on a regular basis.
5. Third, fellowship shows that we anticipate the Lord's coming. The imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ must be a believer's strong motivation for being faithful to Christian fellowship. How does Christ's return motivate you to come to church? Just as Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit come alongside you to help you, discuss how you can come alongside a brother or sister in the Lord to encourage him or her?

### Walk

Fellowship shows that we care for the Lord's people, that we obey the Lord's command, and that we anticipate the Lord's coming. Think of a Christian friend whom you can walk with in fellowship so you can buoy him or her up to persevere in his or her faith. What practical things can you think of to extend encouragement to that particular person?

### Worship & Prayer

*Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the blessing of being able to be in fellowship with You and with other believers through Your Son Jesus Christ. Thank You that I can be a part of a church community that focuses on Your Word, and for drawing me to believers who encourage and care for me. Allow me, Father, to also be a person who encourages and spurs others to draw closer to You. Enable me to be someone who knows how to care for my brothers and sisters in the faith in such a way that Your love and care can be seen. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.*