

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with  
one another in our homes

Date: 5 Nov 2023

Passage: Heb 10: 26-39

Sermon: Ted Rastatter

Questions: John Brewer

In Hebrews 10:26-39, the writer exhorts the audience (including us) to not shrink back, settle down, get comfortable, and abandon our pilgrimage. He reminds them that God is perfectly just, and calls them to reflect on a time when they were joyfully obedient to God despite trials. He finally reminds them that there is hope and perseverance through faith.

1. Read Psalm 73:1-15. Why are we sometimes tempted to “shrink back” or settle into the world around us?
2. Why is it a fearful or dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God? Consider the events after the Israelites built the golden calf. Specifically reference Exodus 32: 25-29. Also consider Leviticus 10:1-2. Examples abound. Also, see Matthew 10:28.
3. The writer of Hebrews reminds his audience of trials and persecution they have endured. As the western church, we have all likely endured the problems of living in a broken world, but it's less likely that we have faced persecution. We are told throughout scripture to expect and even find joy in trials (James 1:2-4). What are some practical biblical strategies for responding to persecution that we are told to expect?
4. Read Hebrews 10:39. Does this describe us? How can we be people who don't “shrink back?” Reference Psalm 73:16-28.
5. Why are we Christians? What is our reward for holding out?

Exhortation: Ted challenged us to get together with a brother or sister to confess our sins to bring those sins into the light. 1 John 1:9 says “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” This verse is even more illuminating in the context of 1 John 1:5-10.