

## LifeGroup Questions

Based On: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

March 6, 2016 Hebrews 10:24-25

### Overview:

Why Church? If Christianity is solely based on a relationship with you and God then why does a believer need the community of fellow believers? While growing up I remember going to church every week whether I wanted to or not. We sat on the left side, second row. Sometimes I was awake and sometimes I wasn't. I have accumulated more gold stars for church attendance than most. From this experience I can honestly say that attendance does not equal community.

It is not only possible but highly probable that by just attending church you will not experience the true sense of community God intends for you. A person can attend church much like they can attend a town hall meeting. It can be a place where you just go and gather information, feel like you have done your civic duty, but never interact with anyone. Unfortunately, a lot of people experience church like this. Community is associated with family, friends, birthday parties, and backyard BBQ's. The church is looked at as a place to get right with God, but not necessarily a place to grow with others.

The Christian faith today has become fairly autonomous. We see ourselves living out our own independent faith journey rather than being part of a great community of believers. The writer of the book of Hebrews warns against having an independent faith. Believers are told to not give up on meeting together. It is impossible to encourage and spur one another on in love and good deeds while living an autonomous faith. Doing community and sharing your faith with fellow believers is a true gift from God.

### Bible Study: Hebrews 10:24-25

1. What are some obstacles keeping Christians from experiencing community at church?
2. Paul Tournier once said: "There are two things we cannot do along... one is to be married and the other is to be a Christian." Why is community a necessary part of the Christian life?
3. Discuss as a group some of the dangers of living an autonomous faith.
4. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What are some ways you can encourage and spur one another on in love and good deeds?
5. Read Proverbs 27:17. Discuss some ways you have learned from the faith of others.
6. Discuss ways the church can help people experience community. Would it take more activities or classes? How do you get someone from being independent in their faith to living the "one another" faith?
7. There was a Roman soldier formation called *testudo*. The formation literally means tortoise. It was to give the soldiers the maximum amount of protection from the enemy. Read Ephesians 6:16. In what ways can you use your faith to strengthen those around you?

