



## • Pastor Mason Stewart “One Anothering: Encourage One Another” 5/15/2022

### Key Verses:

- Hebrews 10:19-25

### Key Thoughts:

- The Creator of our community calls us to imitate Jesus in sacrificial love toward one another so that we can share that Love with people outside of our community.
- The writer of Hebrews talks about Jesus like he's a pioneer of all humanity. Heaven is wide open for us because of the work of Jesus.
- The tendency of our heart is to drift away, which is why God must do so much to get to us. And the cultures that we live in encourage us to drift away.
- The writer of Hebrews is speaking to people under a culture of persecution. He's encouraging them against the temptation to abandon their faith. In verse 23, he tells them to hold on to their faith unswervingly. This demonstrates to us that it takes a lot of intention to keep advancing in the faith.
- God has given us a resource that call us back when we drift away: one another. Verse 24 tells us to consider how we can spur one another towards love and good deed.
- This passage tells us that the first way for us to encourage one another is to gather.
- Effective encouragement, that spurs them on, comes from personal knowledge.
- The next way to encourage one another is to speak to one another. This means to call them alongside to advance the faith with you. It means using your voice to encourage.

### Guidance for Effective Speech:

1. We speak as equals
  - The writer doesn't say “YOU need to do this”, he says “WE need to act this way” or “let US be doing this”.
2. Start by listening
  - “Carefully considering one another” – ask questions like, “how is your soul?”
3. Positive reinforcement, invitation
  - If you see good things in people, call those things out and celebrate them.
4. Don't neglect the foundations
  - Proclaim the significance of Jesus, who gives rise to life.
  - Loving service is the tip of the iceberg, but the foundation is built on Jesus.

### Obstacles:

1. Disillusionment
  - When we see things in each other we don't like, it's easy to step back. But when we abandon each other, we add to a person's struggle. The places that another person is weak are the places God is asking us to engage with encouragement.
2. Hurt



- Pain makes us want to withdraw, but this only leads to more pain. It makes our faith more vulnerable. God gives us grace to forgive and keep loving.
3. Shame
- When we have a low view of ourselves, we want to avoid gathering.
  - God values us enough that he welcomes us into his presence, so we should do the same for each other.
  - The real value that we have is not based on our own merits, but Jesus.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What does it mean that “effective encouragement comes from personal knowledge”?  
How do we best gain that knowledge?
2. Which guidance for effective speech do you need to implement most?
3. Which Obstacle describes you most in regards to encouraging one another?