### March 28 - Together

#### **HEBREWS 10:25**

"Let us not neglect our meeting together..."

The church, or as the actual Greek translation states, "the assembly", is the Body of Christ.

And, together we are the visible image of the risen Lord.

Ephesians 4:16 says, "He makes the whole body fit together perfectly (KJV – "fitly") ..."

# So, as followers of Jesus, we need each other.

We are to be enabling each other:

- To discover our role as a "new creation" in Christ Jesus.
- To worship (or to present our gift of praise to God), Acts 2:46 "... [the first disciples] worshiped together."
- To grow in our faith,
  Acts 2:42 "...they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching."
- To serve together.

  Acts 2:47 "...all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people (followers)."

## We need to be TOGETHER: Hebrews 10:23-25

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. <sup>24</sup> Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. <sup>25</sup> And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

### We need to be together to:

- 1. Remind each other to trust in God.
  - God is trustworthy.
     "Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep His promise" (v. 23).
    - o <u>God is utterly reliable</u>. What He has promised He will, without doubt, accomplish.

**Abraham** is a great example of this teaching. He lived for many years in patient expectation with <u>nothing to go on except that God</u> had promised.

But that was enough.

 We must wait patiently, for He does it all in his own good time, not in ours.

Hebrews 6:18-19

"So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because <u>it is impossible for God to lie</u>. Therefore, <u>we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us.</u> <sup>19</sup> This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls."

### We need to be together:

2. To lovingly motivate faith into action.

(Vs. 24) "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works."

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The word for love the New Testament term for a love that is not self-seeking, a love whose model or inspiration is the Cross (1 John 4:10).

This is a very important Christian obligation.

Followers of Christ are to help one another reach this kind of affection through community activity – like a team, helping others to reach their full potential.

#### We need to be together:

### 3. To encourage each other

(V. 25) "And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."

### Encouragement is the point.

Romans 14:19

"...let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build one another up."

### <u>Prioritizing togetherness</u> is the key for success.

Why, because time is of the essence - the return of Christ is the final curtain of our efforts. And we are accountable to God for one another!

Jesus confirmed this truth at the cross. He arranged for Mary's personal care by giving an assignment to John – "When Jesus saw His mother standing beside the

## TRUE IDENTITY I have called you by your name. You are mine.

disciple He loved, He said to her, 'Dear woman, here is your son.' And He said to this disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from then on His disciple took her into his home." John 19:26 NLT

We are accountable for one another:

- To remind each other to trust God,
- To lovingly motivate each one toward and active faith,
- To encourage each other, the days are long, and our faith grows tired. But God is faithful!

The game has started, and we have a role to fulfill.

Each battle we face is one with assured victory in Christ Jesus our Savior.