

HILL TO DIE ON

WHERE EVERYTHING CHANGED

HILL TO DIE ON, PART 1: WHO NEEDS THE CHURCH?

It's one of the most common statements in our culture today: "I believe in Jesus... I just don't need the church." It sounds reasonable. You can pray anywhere. You can read your Bible at home. You can stream sermons anytime. So why bother with messy people, busy schedules, and imperfect communities?

But what if following Jesus was never meant to be a solo journey? Scripture consistently paints a different picture: a body, a family, a team. The question isn't, "Can you follow Jesus alone?" The question is, "Did Jesus ever intend for you to try?"

BIG IDEA: Salvation comes through Christ alone, but He never meant for you to walk alone.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever tried to do something alone that would have been much easier with a team? What happened?
2. CJ mentioned the phrase: "I don't need the church." Why do you think this belief is so common today? What experiences might lead someone to feel this way?
3. *With the Bible or Bible App, [read Acts 2:42](#).*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. [Acts 2:42 \(NIV\)](#)

4. What do you notice about how the early church lived? Why do you think community was essential from the very beginning?
5. CJ described a piece of wood that is removed from the fire that slowly cools. How does this picture reflect what can happen in our spiritual lives when we isolate ourselves?
6. *With the Bible or Bible App, [read 1 Corinthians 12:12, 21](#).*

*¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.
²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" [1 Corinthians 12:12, 21 \(NIV\)](#)*

7. What do you imagine is happening at the church in Corinth for Paul to write the verses above?
8. What does this passage teach about our need for one another? Where do you sometimes struggle to depend on others?
9. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Hebrews 10:22-25](#) aloud in your group.*

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. [Hebrews 10:22-25 \(NIV\)](#)

10. What is the key to not swerving in your Christian life? Would you say that you currently "hold unswervingly" to the hope you profess? Why or Why not?
11. Note the four *let us* statements in verses 22-25. What does each one mean? What incentives are given?
12. Is there anything in your life you're trying to do (or get through) on your own right now? How can this group spur you on or encourage you?

13. Note the author of Hebrews use of the words “we,” “our,” and “us.” Share in your own words the picture these verses paint of pursuing God together.
14. CJ compared the church to a team that only works when everyone shows up. What happens when someone chooses to “sit on the sidelines”? How does your presence (or absence) impact others?

MOVING FORWARD

You weren't saved to follow Jesus alone—you were placed into a family. This week, take one intentional step toward community: show up, join a group, reach out, or re-engage where you've pulled back. The church isn't perfect—but it's the team Jesus chose for you. And teams only work when everyone shows up.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together...
Hebrews 10:24–25