

**The New and Living Way**  
*With Guest Pastor: Kent Unklesbay*

**Accountability: Let's hold ourselves accountable!**

- Last week we discussed the differences between Doctrines, Convictions, and Preferences. We noted how important it is to keep these in the right categories...so that we do not fall into the trap of placing more or less importance on each category of our beliefs. One area where Satan is attacking the church is to divide believers over matters of conviction or preference...things that have nothing to do with Biblical doctrines or our salvation. Were you successful in seeing other Christians who may have different convictions on non-Biblical issues through the lenses of brotherhood/sisterhood this week? Any specific examples of breakthroughs or victories? Did you witness believers who failed in this area (no names pls)?
- We also discussed how an awareness of our future resurrection...and awareness that we will all stand before the Lord to give an account for our lives, should have an impact on our present living. We are absolutely saved by grace through faith, and not by our works. That said, how does the fear of the Lord impact our pursuit of holiness, the way that we address our personal besetting sins, the things that we dedicate ourselves to...our time, talents, and treasures, and our general desire to live a life that pleases the Lord?

**Refresh: Let's take a fresh look at our focal scripture again!**

- Hebrews 10:19-25

**Exploration: Questions to guide our group discussion.**

- Pastor Kent reminded us that in the days before Christ died, the Holy of Holies was separated from the people of God by a large curtain. The high priest entered the Holy place only once per year to make atonement for the sins of the people. When Christ died, the veil was torn from top to bottom. What is the significance of the curtain being torn from top to bottom, instead of from bottom to top...or another way? According to verses 19-22, what are the results of God breaking down this barrier that was once erected between us as a result of our sin?
- Verse 21 refers to Jesus as our High Priest. Borrowing from the imagery of the High Priest of Judaism entering the Holy Place annually to atone for the sins of the people, the writer of Hebrews looks to Jesus as the High Priest of Christians...who atoned for our sins with his own body and blood. Jesus fulfilled the priestly role for us by atoning for

our sins. The writer of Hebrews goes to great lengths to present Jesus as our High Priest. These are the nine other passages in Hebrews that refer to Jesus in a High Priestly role. Let's study a few of them and then discuss the implications of each text.

- Hebrews 2:17
  - Hebrews 3:1
  - Hebrews 4:14-15
  - Hebrews 5:1-11
  - Hebrews 6:20
  - Hebrews 7:26
  - Hebrews 8:1-3
  - Hebrews 9:7-25
  - Hebrews 13:11-13
- In Hebrews 10:22-24, there are three "Let Us" statements. These statements comprise a response on the part of Christians to the reality that Jesus gives us boldness to walk with God, and to enter into a relationship with God that is unveiled. Let's identify the three "Let Us" statements that are directives to every Christian, and discuss what these things mean.
  - Lastly, Pastor Kent took some time to talk about the importance of in person fellowship. In addition to verse 25, he also referenced Ephesians 4:11-16. What does the Bible say about our meeting frequency as we near the last day? Should we be gathering together more or less as we near the end? What are the implications from the Ephesians passage about the strength of the Body of Christ when each part is healthily doing its part...supplying its strength to the body? What happens to the body when Believers play hookie?

**Study: Additional scriptures for deeper Bible study.**

- Ephesians 2:11-16
- Ephesians 3:8-13
- 1 John 2:1-2
- Galatians 4:1-7

**Application: How can I apply this to my life this week?**

- How should the idea of Jesus being our high priest give us greater boldness to enter into the presence of God? What does all of this say about the lengths that God went through to show you His love?
- What are some specific ways that we can apply the "Let Us" passages from Hebrews 10 to our lives this week?

- What commitments should we be making in light of the Biblical teaching about church attendance being a priority in our lives? Why does this matter...both for you personally, and for the body as a whole?