

Week 7 | May 20 Sermon

Community: This week, take turns in your GROUP sitting in the "HOT SEAT."

In an intimate time with them as a group, Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do people say I am? And then, "Who do you say I am?" Jesus asked these questions to prove a different point, but we can use His questions in building community. There is power in knowing our identity and having it affirmed and encouraged by others around us. It helps us to honor one another well.

Would you be so bold as to go around the room and tell each person who you say they are? Use this time to affirm and encourage one another in who God created them to be. Tell them how you see them. Tell them something you appreciate about them. Tell them something you've enjoyed getting to know about them. Go beyond superficial compliments like "I like your smile," and "You have good taste in music." Listen to the Holy Spirit as He may guide you in what to affirm in the person. Don't put a lot of pressure on yourself; just let it flow! Have grace with one another as some of you have not known each other long. Be bold and continue to grow your relationship through this act of affirmation and genuine humility. You may even want to have a special place be the "hot seat." This feels awkward at first, but I promise you that it will take your GROUP to a new level. I have never done this and had it end badly. Any time we can encourage one another intentionally and somewhat publically, good things happen. :)

Leaders, end your time with prayer to seal in hearts the truth of what was shared. Ask for reminders of true identity in Christ for your groupies throughout the week.



ENCOURAGE

1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:13

As members of this Kingdom community let us encourage others and build each other up.

Share words of encouragement with family members and three other people this week, at least one of whom is not a member of our church.

SANCTUARY & AUDITORIUM simulcast :: Kevin Korver

Please read and discuss Hebrews 10:19-25. What is the Holy Spirit drawing your attention toward in this passage? Why do you think this is so?

The root meaning of encouragement is to "put courage into someone;" "to come alongside and lift them up." Can you share a time when you were encouraged as per the definition above? Why is this significant? Can you share a time when someone really encouraged you?

Kevin outlined the passage like this:

- (v. 22) Draw near to God
- (v. 23) Hold to the hope
- (v. 24) Consider one another

Encourage (v. 25)

How is our relationship with Jesus so critical in becoming people who bless through encouragement?

Do any of these resonate with you? Why?

Encourage through speech

Encourage by noticing

Encourage by writing

Encourage by empowering

Encourage by praying (aloud)

Would you commit to one of these possibilities in the next week:

Share words of encouragement with family members

Share words of encouragement with 3 other people this week, at least one of whom is not a member of

our Kingdom Community

Will you pray blessing prayers for each other as you end your time of Kingdom Community?

Leaders, as a reminder, this could be a great opportunity to end your time with prayer to seal in hearts the truth of what was shared/affirmed about each member. Ask for reminders of true identity in Christ for your groupies throughout the week as well as opportunities to bless others through encouragement.



Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. 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. **Hebrews 10:24-25**