

# Jesus is Better – *Hebrews*

Hebrews 10:19-25

“Encouraging One Another” – May 20, 2018



## **Introduction**

The focus in Hebrews 4:14-10:18 has been to explain the truth of Jesus being our high priest and what He's accomplished. In a word, Jesus provided us open access to God ([v19](#)) and serves as our high priest to guarantee that access ([v20](#)). The fruit of our lives reflects what we believe. In light of the truth of Jesus' person and work, Hebrews calls the believer to act: to draw near to God, to hold fast to our gospel hope, and to stir each other up.

## **Pray**

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

## **Sermon Outline**

- I. Draw near to God (10:19-22)
- II. Hold fast to gospel hope (10:23)
- III. Stir each other up (10:24-25)

## **Read & Discuss**

- 1) Read [Hebrews 10:19-22](#)

To draw near to God is to walk in close communion with Him. We talk to God in prayer, we listen to Him in His word, and respond appropriately to the truths of who God is. What's that look like? It means to see the goodness of God and *trust* Him; to see the sovereignty of God and refuse to be controlled by fear; to see the power of God and face the impossible with confidence. When we fail to live this way and sin against God, Satan reminds us of our guilt within and tempts us to despair. But our confidence to approach God in the first place wasn't our obedience, nor is it now. Our assurance is in Christ and faith in Him and what He's done for us. What keeps you from drawing near to God? What would it look like for you to respond appropriately to the truth of God tomorrow at home, work, school, or in your time off?

Additional reading: John 14:6, John 14:15, Psalm 34:8

- 2) Read [Hebrews 10:23](#)

When following Jesus gets hard, it's tempting to compromise or walk away from Jesus to find relief or comfort. But if the gospel (what Hebrews refers to as our 'confession' here) is true and not mere opinion, we must hold fast to our gospel hope, because it is the only

true hope available. Among so many other competing truth claims in our world, how can we know that the truth of Christianity is *exclusively* right?

Additional reading: Hebrews 1:1-2, John 17:17

One resource to check out for further study is Greg Gilbert's, [Why Trust the Bible?](#) It's on sale at FBCUM's Bookstall.

3) Read [Hebrews 10:24-25](#)

To help strengthen our grip on our gospel hope so we can make it to the end, God has given us the church. We're called to love each other by stirring each other up to love and good deeds. That means we're not okay with seeing another church member, a brother or sister in Christ, stay in their sin or not grow as a believer. That's one reason we're called to meet together, to come to church each Sunday – so we can encourage each other. We do this on Sunday as we meet together *and* we do this throughout the week too – as long as it's called 'today' ([3:13](#)). Can you recall times God has used others to encourage you, to stir you up and keep you from drifting away? Thank God for that! Then, take some time to *consider* ways you can encourage others from First Baptist this week. What might that look like specifically?

Additional reading: Proverbs 27:5, 1 Corinthians 12:21-26

***Prayer of Response***

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

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