

GROWTH GROUPS

February 19, 2012

Hebrews 10:19-25; Isaiah 6:1-7

Conversation Starter –

Have you ever entered in to a situation and felt a strong sense of confidence that helped you accomplish something incredible? Have you ever gone into a situation with a strong sense of self confidence and then realized that you were in over your head? What was that like for you?

Understanding –

In the past few weeks we have gotten a peek at the Holy of Holies in the Temple. We were reminded that once a year the high priest would enter the Holy of Holies to offer sacrifices for the atonement of the people of God. That high priest would have a rope tied around his ankle so that if something happened he could be pulled out without entering this holy place and bringing the wrath of God. Passages like Hebrews 10:19-25 tell us that we enter the holy places of God with confidence. This confidence is not based on our own righteousness or goodness but upon is based upon the atoning blood of Jesus. Christ's finished work on the cross grants us incredible access to the very presence of God.

1. This passage tells us that we have been granted unprecedented access and even confidence to enter the most Holy Place. How does this “access pass” change the rules of religious ritual and worship for the people of God?
2. The passage begins with “therefore, since...” we have this access to the Holy Place of God that we should change some things about how we live our faith. What are the five “let us” statements found in Hebrews 10:19-25?
3. Why does the writer include the one “let us not” forsake the gathering of ourselves together as believers among the other “let us” commitments? Why is meeting together so vital to the health of Christian believers?

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