

Small-Group Discussion Guide (8/23/2026)

Sermon recap: Hebrews 10:19–25 shows that the gathered church is a blood-bought gift to steward. Jesus has opened the way into God’s presence by His blood, and He stands as our great priest over the house of God. Because of this, we are invited to draw near to God together, hold fast to the confession of our hope together, and consider one another intentionally so that we can encourage one another, stir one another up to love and good works, and help one another make it all the way home.

Main passage: Hebrews 10:19–25

All passages used in the sermon: Genesis 3:22–24; Hebrews 10:19–25; John 6:35–40; John 14:6; Romans 8:1; Philippians 1:6

Additional Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 4:9–12; Acts 2:42–47; Romans 12:4–18; Colossians 3:12–17; Hebrews 3:12–14; 1 Peter 2:4–10

Brief definitions:

- **Steward** — To receive something from God as a gift and use it faithfully for His glory, our joy, and the good of others.
- **Draw near** — To come into God’s presence through Jesus with sincerity and confidence.
- **Hold fast** — To keep clinging to what God has promised in Christ, even when doubt, grief, weariness, or apathy pull against us.
- **Consider one another** — To pay careful attention to the actual people God has placed around us so we can encourage and strengthen them.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon began with the reminder that we were not meant to make it to the end of the Christian life alone. Why do you think many Christians still try to follow Jesus in isolation or with minimal dependence on the church? Follow-up: Where have you experienced the gathered church as part of God’s grace to you?
2. Hebrews 10:19–21 says “we have confidence” to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus. What does this show us about the character of God and the sufficiency of Jesus? Follow-up: How does blood-bought confidence differ from self-confidence or religious presumption?
3. The first invitation is “let us draw near.” What are some reasons Christians may hesitate to come honestly into God’s presence, even though Jesus has opened the way? Follow-up: What would it look like this week to draw near with a true heart rather than a perfect-looking heart?
4. Hebrews 10:23 calls us to hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering because “he who promised is faithful.” What kinds of things tend to pull against your grip on God’s promises—doubt, grief, disappointment, weariness, apathy, pressure, or something else? Follow-up: How does it help to remember that our hope rests on God’s faithfulness, not the strength of our grip?
5. The sermon emphasized that “let us consider one another” begins with noticing the people God has placed around us. What keeps us from really noticing one another when we gather? Follow-up: Who might God be asking you to see, remember, pray for, or encourage more intentionally?
6. Hebrews 10:24–25 says we are to stir up one another to love and good works and not neglect meeting together. In Christ, who are we becoming as a gathered people, not merely as isolated individuals? Follow-up: How could your ordinary presence, courage, generosity, singing, service, or perseverance make love and obedience more likely in someone else?
7. The sermon framed gathering as part of helping one another make it home to Jesus. Where do you need help from God’s people right now, and where might God be strengthening you to help someone else keep going? Follow-up: What is one concrete step you can take this week to keep showing up, stop holding fast alone, or consider one another intentionally?

Prayer

Father, thank You for bringing us near through the blood of Jesus. Thank You that we do not have to walk with You alone, hold fast alone, or make it home alone. Forgive us for treating the gathered church as optional, ordinary, or merely convenient. Teach us to receive Your people as a gift of grace and to steward that gift faithfully. Help us draw near with true hearts, hold fast to Your promises, and consider one another with love. Make our presence, encouragement, prayers, and faithfulness useful in the lives of others until the day Jesus brings us safely home. Amen.