

# GOD'S PLAN



## WHY THE CHURCH?

SCAN THE QR  
CODE FOR THE  
FULL SERMON



### WEEK 3

## THE CHURCH'S MEMBERSHIP

*Hebrews 10:19-25*

The sermon discusses the importance of meaningful church membership, as explained in Hebrews 10:19-25. It highlights the necessity of communal worship and fellowship in the church, emphasizing drawing near to God with sincerity and faith, holding fast to hope in Christ, and encouraging each other toward love and good deeds. While personal faith is individual, the sermon argues that Christian growth requires participation in the church community through love, encouragement, and accountability. It concludes with a call to serve Jesus actively, stressing the urgency due to life's temporary nature.

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### DAY 1: Coming with Confidence

#### Reading:

*Hebrews 10:19-22*

19 Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

#### Devotional:

The veil has been torn. What once separated humanity from God's presence has been removed through Christ's sacrifice. You now have direct access to the Father—not because of your worthiness, but because of Jesus' blood. This isn't permission to approach casually, but confidently. God didn't orchestrate redemption's entire story for you to timidly knock at heaven's door. He invites you to come boldly, with sincerity and full assurance. Today, examine your prayer life. Are you approaching God with the confidence His sacrifice earned, or are you still standing at a distance? Come near with a genuine heart. He's waiting to meet you there, not with judgment, but with welcome.

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### DAY 2: The Faithfulness of Our Hope

#### Reading:

*1 Peter 1:3-9*

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, 7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the

revelation of Jesus Christ; 8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

**Devotional:**

Hope in Scripture isn't wishful thinking—it's settled certainty anchored in God's promises. You love Jesus though you haven't seen Him. You trust Him through trials that test your faith like fire refines gold. This hope calls you to hold fast, to white-knuckle grip the confession of your faith when storms rage. The winds of this world will try to bend you, to shake your confidence, to make you let go. But remember: the One who promised is faithful. Every disappointment, every unanswered question, every difficult season will ultimately reveal this truth—He was faithful through it all. What are you holding onto today? Let go of everything except your hope in Christ. That alone will never fail you.

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**DAY 3: You're Part of Something Bigger**

**Reading:**

***Ephesians 4:1-16***

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it says, "When He ascended on high, He led captive a host of captives, And He gave gifts to men." 9 (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) 11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

**Devotional:**

You are a puzzle piece with unique edges and empty spaces. Your strengths fill someone else's weaknesses; their strengths complete your gaps. This is God's design for the church—not a collection of isolated believers, but an interconnected body. A Christian without a church is like a sheep without a flock, an organ without a body. You weren't meant to navigate faith alone. The very gifts God gave you are intended to build up others, and you need their gifts to grow. Your participation matters. Your presence encourages. Your absence is felt. Today, consider: are you truly connected, or are you a disconnected piece? The body needs you, and you need the body. This isn't optional—it's essential for spiritual survival and growth.

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## **DAY 4:** Stirring Up Love and Good Works

### **Reading:**

#### ***1 Corinthians 13:4-8***

4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

#### ***Hebrews 10:24***

24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

### **Devotional:**

What if we competed in love? What if believers challenged each other: "I'm going to show more people Jesus' love than you this week"? This is the provocation God desires—not to anger or criticism, but to love and good deeds. When the church gathers, it shouldn't be a cruise ship where you're served, but a battleship where you engage. Examine how you approach gathering with believers. Are you asking, "What can I get?" or "How can I give?" Love is patient, kind, not self-seeking. It bears all things, endures all things, never fails. Today, identify one specific way you can stir up a brother or sister toward love. Send an encouraging text. Serve without recognition. Love someone difficult. This is what revival looks like—ordinary believers extraordinarily committed to provoking love.

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## **DAY 5:** The Urgency of Now

### **Reading:**

#### ***Ephesians 5:15-20***

15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil. 17 So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; 20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

### **Devotional:**

The day is drawing near. Whether Christ's return or your final breath, time is limited. Whatever you're going to do for Jesus, do it now. That burden on your heart, that vision for ministry, that relationship to restore, that person to forgive, that obedience you've delayed—the time is now. Tomorrow isn't promised. Opportunities close. Hearts harden. Doors shut. You're either drawing near to Jesus or drifting away—there's no neutral ground in a fallen world. Don't forsake gathering with believers. Don't let excuses—parking, people, preferences—keep you from the body. Encourage someone today. Serve immediately. Love urgently. Make the most of every opportunity because the days are evil. What has God been calling you toward that you've postponed? Today is the day to move. Don't wait.