


“Meeting God in Community”

Remember: The goal of small group is 100% participation . . . to hear from everyone. Choose the questions you think your group will respond to, but center them around the Bible by using the  questions marked “ ”





Open It:

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- Who are the people who helped you to meet Jesus? Who is helping you to continue meeting Jesus?

Read It:

- Hebrews 10:23-25

Explore It:

- How has your experience of meeting God been shaped by the community around you? Can you recall a specific instance where someone in your faith community introduced you to a new aspect of God??
- In what ways do you find yourself carrying your community's influence into your personal relationship with Jesus? How might this be both beneficial and challenging?
- Reflecting on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's statement 'This must be stronger than that', how can we ensure our faith community's influence is stronger than the surrounding culture's?
-  How do you balance the personal nature of faith with the communal aspects emphasized in Hebrews 10:23-25? What challenges do you face in this balance?
-  In what ways have you experienced or witnessed the 'spurring on' mentioned in Hebrews 10:24? How can we spur others on toward love and good deeds without being overbearing?

- Considering the early church's commitment to meeting together despite persecution, what sacrifices are we willing to make today to prioritize our faith community?
- How can we practice 'breathing courage' into the discouraged within our faith communities? Can you share an experience where someone's encouragement significantly impacted your faith journey?
- 📖 In what ways does your current community help you 'hold unswervingly to the hope we profess' (Hebrews 10:23)? Are there areas where you need more support?
- How might intentionally considering others, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:24, change the way we approach relationships within our faith community?

Do It:

- Reflecting on the sermon's emphasis on community, what concrete steps can you take to deepen your involvement in your faith community or to help others feel more connected?

Small Group Guide: Meeting God in Community

Opening Ice-Breaker: Share about a time when someone introduced you to a person or experience that became significant in your life.

Key Scripture: Hebrews 10:23-25

Discussion Questions:

- The pastor states, "Faith may be personal, but it's never private." What does this mean to you? How have you experienced this in your own faith journey?
- Reflect on the statement, "We can't read the Bible alone because our community is still present." How has your community shaped your understanding of Scripture?
- What voices or influences in your life are currently shaping your relationship with Jesus? Are they pulling you towards or away from Him?
- The sermon emphasizes that "community isn't found, it's forged." What challenges have you faced in building meaningful Christian community? How have you overcome them?
- Discuss the different aspects of community mentioned in Hebrews 10:23-25: a) Holding unswervingly to hope b) Considering how to spur one another on c) Not giving up meeting together d) Encouraging one another Which of these do you find most challenging? Why?
- How can we "breathe courage" into each other as a small group? Share specific examples.

Key Takeaways:

- We meet God through and in community.
- Our faith is shaped by the voices and influences around us.
- Building strong Christian community requires intentional effort and perseverance.

- Healthy Christian community involves mutual encouragement, accountability, and support.

Practical Applications:

- Identify one area where you need to let your Christian community have a stronger voice in your life. Make a plan to engage more deeply in this area.
- Choose a fellow group member to "spur on" this week. Send them an encouraging message or have a conversation to help them grow in their faith.
- Commit to regular attendance and participation in your small group or church community, recognizing its importance in your spiritual growth.
- Reflect on ways you can be more intentional about building and strengthening your Christian relationships outside of formal church gatherings.

Closing Prayer: Adapt the prayer from the end of the sermon, allowing group members to pray for each other and for a deeper experience of God through community.

Follow-up: Consider signing up for the "Rooted" program as a group if you haven't already, or discuss how you can apply the principles of deep community in your current group structure.