

Connection

What's one of your favorite places to spend quality time with a friend? Why?

Cheer and Challenge

How did it go living out your "I will..." statement from last week? Share your experience.

Tell about any experiences you had this week following through on the B.L.E.S.S. challenge.

Content

One Another-ing (v) : doing the most good for the person or people in your proximity using the spiritual resources at your disposal.

What word jumps out at you in this definition being a key to effective one another-ing? Why?

In **Hebrews 10**, while the Jewish people were suffering poverty and persecution, the author of Hebrews reminds them of the value of Jesus' sacrifice. What do verses 19-20 say we have because of Jesus' death on the cross?

If you have some background understanding of the Old Testament, explain how people entered the "most holy place" before Jesus came. How did this change after Jesus' death on the cross? (If this is not something you're familiar with, take a look at this article: <https://www.gotquestions.org/Holy-of-Holies.html>)

Four "**Let us**" statements in the next verses focus in on what we **share together as believers**:

1. Verse 22 - "**Let us** _____"

Once you were in a position of being guilty before God. How is this guilt removed according to Hebrews 10:19-22?

2. Verse 23 - **"Let us _____"**

Being in community with other believers helps you hold on to hope. Describe a time when you personally experienced this.

3. Verse 24 - **"Let us _____"**

Why do we need to motivate each other to **love**?

Why do we need to motivate each other to do **good deeds**?

What types of things demotivate us?

4. Verse 25 - **"Let us _____"**

How does meeting together benefit us as believers?

What new ways of "meeting together" have you adopted during the Covid crisis? What have you discovered by doing things differently?

5. Verse 25 reminds us that **encouraging one another** is one of our purposes for being together. What do you encounter in life that is *discouraging*?

What encouraging words have you needed to hear from other believers recently?

Commitment

Which of the above "let us" statements challenges you most? What action step can you take in that area?

"I will _____."



Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat / Engage with another. Serve them. Share your story.

Each day this week look for one person you can **listen to with care** and then **encourage**. Ask Jesus to give you ears to hear and encouraging words to speak.

Continue Digging Deeper

1. **Write - Walk - Memorize - Pray:** Choose a verse from this week's message-based study and write it on a notecard. Take a walk and practice memorizing it while you walk. Spend time praying through the verse as you walk.

2. **One another-ing** can bring unity and deepen relationships in community. The Bible describes unity using different analogies. Read the passages below and check out the resources to learn more about God's idea of unity.

Family - Read Ephesians 2:19. If you are a follower of Jesus, then you are in the household or family of faith. How can you be a better member of the family by loving, serving and caring for others who are a part of the family of faith and those who are still considering joining?

- Optional resource: "What is the value of having a church family?" ~ <https://www.gotquestions.org/church-family.html>

Body of Christ - Read I Corinthians 12:12-27. How does this passage explain that unity is not uniformity?

- Listen to this song and pray and ask Jesus to help you see how to love others motivated by unity. "If We Are The Body" (acoustic) by Casting Crowns ~ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZdogrT1VXA>

House (Living Stones) - Read I Peter 2:4-5. This analogy describes the church as a house. Who is the foundation or cornerstone? How are we "living stones" in the house? Make a sketch of what is conveyed in this analogy.

- Optional Resource: Living Stones Explained ~ <https://www.gotquestions.org/living-stone.html>

3. **Flattery or Encouragement.** Sean DeMars has this to say,

"Flattery is defined as "excessive and insincere praise, given especially to further one's own interests."

Biblically speaking, however, encouragement is never excessive; it's exact.

It's never insincere; it's always an overflow of the heart.

Encouragement is pointing out the grace of God in the lives of others."

Read: Proverbs 26:28, 29:5, Romans 16:17-18. What would motivate someone to use flattery instead of encouragement? What are the results of flattery? How can you encourage others using specific observations about them with a sincere heart?

Do: Encouragement can look like: a boost, inspiration, cheer, comfort, reassurance or giving confidence. Choose one of these and do that for someone this week.

Reflect: Read II Corinthians 1:3-4, I Thessalonians 5:11 and Joshua 1:9 and write down what you learn.

4. There are many things in the Bible that describe how we should treat one another, but what does it say about what we should **not** do to each other? In each Bible verse listed below you will find a "one another" that speaks to what we should avoid doing in our relationships and friendships. How can you avoid doing these things? What could you do instead?

Colossians 3:9

Romans 14:13

Galatians 5:26

John 6:43

James 4:11

James 5:9

Romans 12:17

Philippians 2:3