

**SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 10:19-25 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

“one another”= mutuality

**I. WHY THE FELLOWSHIP OF MUTUAL CARE IS IMPORTANT**

- In light of what Jesus has done, the author of Hebrews exhorts us BOTH in our vertical relationship with God, AND in our horizontal relationships with one another.

- Love and good works, which we were created for, does not come naturally to us.

**Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)- <sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

- Left to ourselves, we will simply live for ourselves. We will not drift into love and good works. Hence, we need to “stir up one another.” (mutual care)

**II. WHAT IT MEANS TO PRACTICE IT**

1) “*Considering*”= to contemplate, reflect, or think deeply about.

2) “*Stirring*”= to irritate, provoke, or sharply confront

**Proverbs 12:1 (ESV)- <sup>1</sup> Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.**

3) “*Encouraging*”= to come alongside, to comfort /console

**III. HOW DO WE DO IT**

<sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some...

- “neglect”= to forsake or abandon.

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you see your relationships with other Christians, as equally important as your personal relationship with God? Why or why not?
2. Do you have people in your life that are actively thinking (“considering”) about how you can grow as a Christian? Are you doing that for someone else? If so, what does this look like? If not, is there someone you can start intentionally doing that for this week?
3. Are there people in your life that are allowed to “stir” you up to love and good works? Are you doing that for someone else? If not, why is that? If so, when was the last time this happened in your life and how did you respond?
4. Who can you actively encourage this week? How will you encourage them?
5. What are some ways that we can ensure that we do not “neglect” (forsake) to meet together? Do you believe that this is important? Why or why not?