

Pause Group - Hebrews 10: 19-39

Begin your time together by sharing highs and lows from the past week. Pray together with gratitude for the joys of the week in the lives of your group members and the world. Pray for those dealing with struggles. Pray for the worlds struggles.

Study Questions: Address the questions your group desires

1. What stood out to you in the readings from the *Hebrews for Everyone* book this week? (pages 114-126)
2. Read Hebrews 10:19-39. What, as seen in 10:22-23, should characterize us as we draw near to God in worship?
3. How are we dependent on God and his work for each of these?
4. What can we gain from joining others in worship? (vv. 24-25)
5. Which part of Hebrews 10:19-25 is most difficult for you to embrace in your own life and why?
6. We find some rather severe warnings in 10:26-31. Put into your words the kind of person the author is referring to when he talks about those who “sin deliberately and knowingly” (v. 26) and “trample the son of God underfoot” (v. 29).
7. Many of us are so unused to thinking of God’s judgement at all that we bend over backwards to downplay warnings like this one. What difference would it make in our thinking about God and how he relates to humans if God didn’t judge people who have systematically ordered their lives so as to become an embodiment of injustice and malice?
8. What kind of difficulties were the original readers of Hebrews facing? (vv. 32-39)
9. How is Habakkuk 2:3-4 (quoted in Hebrews 10:37-38) used to help the believers face their circumstances?
10. How do these words help you?

Closing prayer – Origen of Alexandria lived from 184 to 253 CE. He was one of the early scholars and theologians of the Church. I invite you to pray one of his prayers today.

Jesus, my feet are dirty. Come even as a slave to me, pour water into your bowl, come and wash my feet. In asking such a thing I know I am overbold, but I dread what was threatened when you said to me, “If I do not wash your feet I have no fellowship with you.” Wash my feet then, because I long for your companionship.