

DEPENDENT

vGroup Study



VINTAGE PRESS

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PUT YOUR PHONE DOWN

It's game day. Some of the teammates have shown up to the practices. A few of them even showed up with all of their equipment. Now there are a few players in the locker room who are ready to go out and play the game. But is this team actually a team that you can trust to go out and win a game, or even just play well? In a similar way to members of a team not showing up to practice or to games makes it hard to say that someone is on a team, it's difficult to see commitment to Christ when a Christian does not attend church.

Part of being a member of a team or organization is showing up to the meetings, practices, or games. An organization is not united if its members do not cooperate with one another, and especially so if participants do not participate by showing up to events, big and small. The case is no different for churches. Attending church services, going to vGroup, and even meeting with your Life Group are important habits for you to foster.

- What are some issues that can arise when people don't show up to gatherings for organizations? Think about sports teams, actors in films or plays, book clubs, or other such organizations.
- What are the benefits from people showing up to group events?
- How does church attendance affect your own life?

In these verses the author of Hebrews contributes to a larger pattern of privileges and exhortations in the book of Hebrews. Jesus Christ is presented as our high priest who gives us access to God the Father. Because Jesus Christ provides us access to the Father, we are then encouraged to meet together and to build one another up.

¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let 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.

Hebrews 10:19–22

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- What are the holy places that the blood of Jesus allows us to enter into? (Hint: Think about the tabernacle, specifically the Holy of Holies.)
- What is the curtain referenced in v. 20? How did Jesus open the curtain? (Hint: Think about the crucifixion.)
- Who is the priest referenced in v. 21? What is the role of a high priest?
- How does v. 22 evoke the priestly purification rituals in order to give us a picture of what our hearts ought to look like?

²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not 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.

Hebrews 10:23–25

- What is the hope that we confess? How does this relate to the faithfulness of God in fulfilling a specific promise?
- What are some ways that we can stir up one another to love and good works?
- What does v. 24 say is one of the main benefits that we derive from meeting together? How is that important for our Christian walk?

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- The word “Day” being capitalized means that the author of Hebrews has a particular event, or day in mind. What day is he referring to, and how should that affect the way that we interact with other believers?

This passage from Hebrews is very clear that our response to the privilege of having Jesus Christ as our high priest should be to meet together on a regular basis for the purpose of lifting up and encouraging one another. Meeting together for corporate worship, prayer, and teaching is an indispensable habit for the Christian that not only affects the individual believer, but also the other believers around him or her. As we strive to develop this habit on our own part, we should be mindful of the impact that our presence has on others.

At Vintage we have multiple avenues through which we encourage our partners and larger family to meet together throughout the week. We have our Sunday gatherings, we have vGroups that meet all over the city on various days, we encourage people to be part of a Life Group, and we have various opportunities to serve. If anyone needs more information about any of these opportunities to connect into the Vintage community, check out the weblinks below.¹

- How is your walk with Christ impacted when you are not regularly prioritizing worship and discipleship with your church?
- How does attending worship and participating in a vGroup impact your relationship with Christ?
- What are the ways that you are plugged in to your local church community?

REFERENCES

¹For more information on connecting into the Vintage community, please visit the following webpages:

- For taking next steps—vcnola.com/connectwithus
- For vGroups—vcnola.com/vgroups
- For Life Groups—vcnola.com/lifegroups
- For serving—vcnola.com/go