

Teaming Up

A Study of Hebrews - (Hebrews 10:1-25)

Pastor Bob Johnson, March 1st, 2020

I. A “First Nine” Wrap Up (Hebrews 10:1-18)

- **The Law was:** _____ **but** _____ (v1-10)
- **Jesus is:** _____ **&** _____ (v11-13)
- **We are:** _____ **& being** _____ (v10, 14-18)

II. A “Last Four” Focus: (Hebrews 10:19-25)

- **Let us confidently ...**
(Hebrews 10:19-22, 1 John 2:1-2, 1 Timothy 2:5)
- **Let us not ...**
(Hebrews 10:23, Numbers 23:19, Psalm 119:90)
- **Let us help each other ...**
(Hebrews 10:24-25, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7; 15:33, Proverbs 13:20)

III. Why we are better together:

- **Christianity is a ...**
(1 Corinthians 12:21-27, Romans 12:4-5, 1 Peter 4:8-10)
- **Some _____ are too _____ to make alone.**
(Proverbs 15:22, Proverbs 14:12, Proverbs 12:15)
- **Some _____ are too _____ to bear alone.**
(Galatians 6:2,5, Matthew 26:36-38, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)
- **Some _____ are too _____ to resist alone.**
(James 5:13-16)
- **Some _____ are too _____ to keep alone.**
(Psalm 66:16)

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This Week’s Discussion Guide:

Welcome to our eighth week of this 12 week study of Hebrews 5-11. Our last week of small groups for this season will be the last week in March.

At GPC, we are big on small groups :). May our church family grow warmer together as we meet in small groups to develop friendships and encourage each other as we learn to apply God’s truths to our everyday lives.

Getting Started:

Last Sunday morning, one of the emphases was that ‘we are better together’ and that Christianity is meant to be a team sport and not a solo endeavor. Speaking of team sports, what team sports have you been part of? What as a good memory that comes to mind?

What are some frustrations that come with being on a sporting team?

What are some positive lessons you learned from being on a sporting team?

What sporting teams (if any) do you like to watch?

If you could go to one sporting event in the world, which one would it be?

Sporting teams are not the only way people ‘team up’. Other than at church and sports, can you think of any other groups you have been part in your life (Boy scouts, book club etc.)?

How have these group experiences been similar or different than our small groups at GPC?

One of the ways we are better together is that we can motivate each other to make right choices. It is easier to make right decisions when others are moving in the same direction. Similarly, it is easier to make wrong decisions because of the influence of those around us.

Can you think of a time in your life when you made a wrong choice because of the influence of peers around you?

How did the wrong choice or choices impact your life?

For many Christians, church is something they go to instead of something they are part of. Why do you think so many Christians are willing to settle for a concept of church which is nothing more than listening to a weekly concert with a lecture?

One way we are better together is that there are times when we need others to help lift something that is too heavy for us to bear alone. No one enjoys asking for help, but we all need to do it at times.

On a lighter note ... Bob shared about needing some help to move a refrigerator. Physically or emotionally, when have you faced a situation that you asked someone to help you? Was it difficult to ask them? Looking back, are you glad you asked them for their help?

One way we are better together is getting input before we make an important decision. When have you asked for counsel before you made a decision and, looking back, you are glad you did?

Another way we are better together is that we can encourage each other with our stories of when God made a positive difference in our lives. Bob shared about a new way we can encourage other members of our church family and even those beyond GPC by recording our stories so that others can be encouraged by them.

One hesitation to sharing our stories of God working in our lives is the awareness that we still have a long way to go in our walk with God and understanding truths about God. In John 9, there is a story of a man who Jesus healed from blindness. The pharisees were upset since he was healed on the Sabbath. They thought Jesus couldn't be from God if he healed on the Sabbath. They asked the man questions about Jesus but it was obvious he didn't know much other than that Jesus healed him. Read his response to those questioning him in John 9:25. He didn't have to wait to learn more about Jesus to share with others what Jesus has already done.

Knowing that we all have a long way to go in our understanding of who God is and our spiritual maturity, what stories come to mind where God has already made a positive difference in your life?

Quick Review:

Let's re-read Hebrews 10:1-25 which was the passage Bob taught on last Sunday. Looking back at your notes from last Sunday's teaching on this passage, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, confused you, encouraged you, or stretched your thinking?

Digging Deeper:

This past Sunday, we looked at two of the more than thirty "one another" commands in the New Testament ("spur one another on toward love and good deeds" and "encourage one another").

These "one anothers" can't take place in a crowd of casual acquaintances. Rather, they need a smaller group of committed people (like a small group :).

Below are a few of the other "one another" verses.

Romans 12:10

Romans 12:16

Romans 14:13

Romans 15:7

Romans 15:14

Which one of these "one another" verses is the hardest for you to maintain or put into practice?

Which of these "one another" verses do you think are the most important for us in helping each other to love and do good deeds?

Wrapping Up:

Looking back on the message from Sunday and from our discussion, what is one truth that stands out to you that you can prayerfully ask God to help apply to your life somehow?

Before we wrap up our sharing time, let's prayer for one another!

What are some specific requests we have that we can pray for?