

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:25 (NIV)

Meeting Together

You've heard and made a lot of excuses for not gathering together with other believers to meet with me in worship. Yes, I have heard and made most all of them. I doubt that. You be surprised at how many you haven't used. But, let me hear some of your reasons now. What are some good and acceptable reasons for you to skip out on gathering to meet with me in worship? I didn't say that I had any good and acceptable reasons for not gathering together to meet with you in worship. **No, you didn't say that.** I just said that I had made plenty of excuses and had reasons for not gathering together with other believers to meet with you in worship. **I think you're stalling. Are your reasons kind of weak and embarrassing?** Yes, they are both weak and embarrassing. **I think it will help you to hear them said out loud. So, go ahead and give me your reasons.** I will apologize and ask for your forgiveness in advance. **You are forgiven. I'm not trying to shame you. I want you to hear what you have told yourself about not meeting with me. I'm listening.** Here goes. I have said that I was too busy. **So, what has been more important and valuable than meeting with me?** There is nothing more important than meeting with you. I also have said that I was too tired. **Why were you too tired?** I stayed out too late the night before. **How do you feel about those choices now?** I think I have made some bad choices and poor uses of my time based on misplaced priorities. If I make attending worship celebrations my priority I will prepare myself by going to bed earlier the night before. **That sounds like a good plan.** It will do me no good to come to worship exhausted. **No, it will not.** Oh, I have said that I needed "me" time. **What's that?** I'm not sure. I heard someone else say it and it sounded good to me. **What happened when you devoted yourself to your "me" time?** Not, much. I would have been better off by receiving the encouragement I do when I gather with others to worship you. **Yes, that's true. Go on.** I have said that I can worship you anywhere all by myself. I have thought that I really don't need to gather with others to worship you. **It's very hard to receive encouragement from others when you are all alone, isn't it?** Yes, it is. I have really reached by saying that traveling conditions weren't safe. **On those days you probably stayed home all day then, didn't you?** No, I ventured out shortly after the worship celebrations were over. **Was the weather a lot better then?** No, it wasn't. **Then that was an exceptionally weak reason for not attending the worship celebration, wasn't it?** Yes, it was.

I'm sure that you can go on and on with reasons why you haven't attended worship celebrations. Yes, I can. **But, I have heard enough. I have some statements that I want you to respond to. I'm listening. You know that I love you.** Yes, I do. **You know that I created and designed you.** Yes, I do. **You believe that what I say is true and right.** Yes, I do. **If my word conflicts with your behavior what will you do?** I will change my behavior. **Why is that?** I believe that you know what is best for me. **Yes, I do. You know that I want to encourage your faith as you draw near to me.** Yes, I do. **You know that I want you to encourage others when you gather together in worship with them.** Yes, I do. **What does my word say about you gathering together with others to worship me?** Your word says that I should not skip out on worship celebrations. Your word says that I can give receive and give encouragement, as I gather with other believers to worship you. **Yes, it does. Will you make it your unwavering commitment to gather with other believers to worship me?** Yes Lord, I will.

Lord, thank you that you have placed me in a body of believers where I can receive and give encouragement. I am making it my advance decision to be unwavering and consistent in my worship attendance. Draw near to me as I draw near to you in worship. Amen

Let Us *Not Give Up Meeting Together*

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

NIV Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Neglecting To Meet Together*

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.

ESV Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Neglect Our Meeting Together*

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

NLT Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Forsaking The Assembling Of Ourselves Together*

not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

NKJV Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Neglecting To Meet Together*

not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

NRSV Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Avoid Worshiping Together*

not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.

MSG Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Forsaking Or Neglecting To Assemble Together*

Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching.

AMP Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Neglect Our Church Meetings*

Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near.

TLB Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Not Forsaking Our Assembling Together*

not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

NASB Hebrews 10:25

Let Us *Should Not Stay Away From The Church*

You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the day coming.

NCV Hebrews 10:25

Not Give Up Meeting Together Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Let Us – Hebrews 10:25

In Context: *Read Hebrews 10*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, thank you that you have placed me in a body of believers where I can receive and give encouragement. I am making it my advance decision to be unwavering and consistent in my worship attendance. Draw near to me as I draw near to you in worship. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How are you making it your habit to consistently gather together in worship with other believers?

What are worthy reasons for skipping out on gathering with other believers to worship the Lord?

What has happened to the vibrancy of your faith when you have failed to attend worship celebration?

What encouragement have you received as you have gathered in worship with fellow believers?

How have you been able to encourage fellow believers as you gathered in worship with them?

How has the Lord spoken to you in and through worship celebrations?

What have you missed when you have not gathered together with other believers to worship the Lord?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Make it your unwavering commitment to consistently gather together in worship with your fellow believers.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will both encourage you and use you to encourage others as you attend worship celebrations.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how you have been encouraged in your faith in worship celebrations.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you consistently gather together in worship so you can give and receive encouragement in your faith.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will make it my unwavering consistent habit to gather together with fellow believers to worship you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how do you want me to give and receive encouragement as I gather with others to worship you?
