



SERIES: JANUARY – BECOMING SPIRITUALLY FIT

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Wednesday, 01/26/2022

Scripture: Hebrews 10:23-25

TITLE: Better Together

Okay, let's have some fun. Let's do some word association. I'm going to say a word, and I want you to say the first word that comes to mind. And yes, really say it. It's more fun that way.

“Peanut Butter.” “Cracker.” “Black.” “Cheese.” (Did you say wine? Shame, shame!) How about “Family”? “Church.” “Community.”

I don't know what words you said when I mentioned these last three. But there are three words that we should think of and live out as a spiritual community. What are those words? Let's listen to the writer of Hebrews 10:23-25.

Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering since he who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

The writer begins by saying let's “hold onto the confession of our hope without wavering.” What the writer is saying is, “don't forget and therefore fail to live out the truth of the Gospel. The gospel that ceases to be the true Gospel is no gospel at all. From this core belief, the other tenants of our faith flow. So we must hold on to essential Christian doctrine. This is the first word: hold.

Why? So that we might consider one another. That's the second word. To consider means to be carefully thinking about. It's showing deep concern for. To be honest, I don't know how much I do this. When a prayer request comes in, I pray for the person. We do as a ministry. But I don't know how much I deeply consider them or their request. We are called to as a spiritual family. This consideration moves us to authentic love.

And then the writer says, “encouraging each other.” Everyone needs a good encourager in their corner. Yes, we need that coach who provides accountability. That person who considers what a person needs. But we also need some emotional jet fuel from someone who cares and wants to see us keep going when life gets hard. So we are to encourage each other. Jesus is coming soon, so let's finish well.

This is why we do what we do here at Back to the Bible. We are striving to move people closer to Jesus each day through holding, considering, and encouraging. So this is my challenge for you: Join us in the journey. We have a growing community of learners who are daily growing through digital solutions. Will you hold onto the Word of God? Will you consider the cares and

joys of the people here and around you? Will you encourage each other to keep going? If so, then let's go.

Because we truly go better together.