

THE LOCAL CHURCH
Fellowship: The Power Of Fellowship

- I. **There is supernatural strengthening in fellowship-Hb10:23-Let us hold fast (retain, keep firm possession of) the profession (homologia) of our faith without wavering (firm, unmoved); (for he is faithful that promised;) 24 And let us consider (W1828-Think on with care) one another to provoke (incitement to good; stir up, inspire) unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking (abandon, leave behind) the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting (embolden, strengthen, give spirit or courage; cheer the mind in distress, alleviate grief, give refreshment) one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. 26 For (because) if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot (reject, disdain, spurn) the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy (common, ordinary) thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongs unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. 32 But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; 33 Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. 34 For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. 35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which has great recompense of reward. 36 For ye have need of patience (constancy, cheerful endurance, perseverance; A man not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings) that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. 37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. 39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition (eternal misery in hell); but of them that believe to the saving of the soul**
- A. 23-Why would God have to tell us to hold fast to the confession of our faith?-The enemy is trying to get it from us and we'll be tempted to let it go; It's the picture of someone trying to pull something out of your hands-You must be strong
1. This is referring to the confession of our faith that Jesus is Lord-However, it works for any confession of faith
- B. 24-After telling us to hold fast to the confession your faith it says consider one another-These two are connected
1. We should consider others-How can I strengthen and help someone else to hold fast to their confession of faith?
 2. To consider someone else you have to stop thinking about yourself-Be people conscious not self-conscious
- C. 24-We can inspire one another-~~Provke~~-Inspire-Dictionary.com-Fill with a quickening; W1828-Inspire with new life
1. 25-We can exhort one another-We can stir faith, joy, peace-**Hb10:25-PH-Let us do all we can to help one another's faith**
 2. This matters-This can be the difference between winning or being defeated; People lose because they get weak
- D. 24-25-Consider one another, not forsaking-To forsake assembling together with other believers means you're not considering others; What about the people you were supposed to minister to when you gathered?
1. 25-As the manner of some is-Not getting together with other believers and coming to church is not a new idea
- E. 25- God said don't forsake it so apparently you need it-It's ignorance and pride to think you don't need this-**TPT-This is not the time to pull away and neglect meeting together, as some have formed the habit of doing, because we need each other**
1. So often the strength you need comes through believers when you gather-There's some stuff God will give you no other way than through fellow believers; If you forsake you can miss out on it
 2. The further away from the Word you get, the more problems you have-If you forsake expect to have problems
- F. 25-As His return nears this gets more important-Why?-**Hb10:25-ER-We must not quit meeting together, as some are doing. No, we need to keep on encouraging each other. This becomes more and more important as you see the Day getting closer; NCV-You should not stay away from church meetings...meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the day coming**
1. 23,26,29-Sin is rejecting Jesus after you've received the truth-You reject the sacrifice and so to you there is none
 2. 29-These are those that reject Jesus and spurn him as unnecessary-They don't need him, they're fine without him; They count the blood as ordinary, common and say there's nothing special about it that we need it
 3. 27,30-31-Judgement awaits these who reject Jesus after receiving the truth-Is this real?

4. 32-34-He was talking about people who cast away their faith, but these endured afflictions and retained their faith
5. 35-They still have their faith and he's saying don't cast it away now-This is their confidence that Jesus is their Lord and savior and that they have something better coming; There's reward for holding on
6. 36-You need patience to do the will of God and to receive the promise-This is true for any promise
7. 37-Jesus is coming, but will He find faith?-Lk18:8-When the Son of man comes, shall he find faith on the Earth?
8. 38,39-You can draw back to the place of casting away your faith, to perdition-To be saved you must endure
9. As His return nears the enemy works overtime to get believers to cast away their faith-2Th2:3-Let no man deceived you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 2Tm4:3-For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth and be turned unto fables; Mt24:11-Many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold 13 But he that shall endure unto to the end, the same shall be saved 24 They shall deceive the very elect

G. How are you going to hold fast to your confession, hold onto your confidence, persevere and not draw back?-You have to be strong and one of the main ways you get strengthened is through other believers

II. **As we gather with other believers quickenings and strengthening can come through one another to one another**

A. You are a spirit, you have a soul and you live in a physical body-1Th5:23-I pray the God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ

1. You are a spirit being, your spirit is real-Js2:26-For as the body without the spirit is dead
2. It's easy to be unaware of your spirit because you can't access it with your physical senses-You can't see/feel it; As a general rule, the more immature you are spiritually the less aware you are of spiritual things

B. Your spirit can be strong or weak-Being saved doesn't mean you're strong inside; Strength requires diet and exercise-Ep3:14-I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; 2Cor4:16

C. The condition of your spirit determines the quality of your life

1. There's only one way to get victory over the enemy and it is to resist him-To resist you must be strong inside-1Pt5:9-Whom resist steadfast in the faith; Js4:7-Submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you
2. A Christians with a weak spirit is a defeated one-Pr24:10-If you faint (let go) in the day of adversity, they strength is small; 2Cor4:8-We are perplexed but not in despair...16 We faint not...the inward man is renewed day by day
3. People try to play this religious game of being some weak pathetic creature who God does everything for-Many believe we are weak and pathetic but we just pray and our big God deals with the bad devil for us - Wrong
4. If you're weak inside you're not going to make it-Eph6:10-Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might

D. We can be a life shot to each other-Hb10:24-Consider one another to provoke one another to love and good works...exhorting (embolden, give strength, spirit or courage; cheer the mind in distress, alleviate grief, give refreshment) one another

1. Strengthen your brethren-Lk22:32-I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when you are converted, strengthen your brethren 1Th5:11-Comfort yourselves together, and edify one another; 1Th4:18-Comfort one another with these words; 2Cor1:3-That we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble; Hb3:13-Exhort one another daily

E. The strength to endure and persevere can come as you fellowship with the brethren-Things can happen in gathering with one another that propel us on to victory; Strength can come inside to hold on and hold fast and press on and press through and so instead of falling short and missing out we persevere and enter into

F. Don't forsake assembling-This is a command-Satan wants to isolate you, to weaken you so that he can defeat you