

DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO CHURCH TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

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. 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 10:19-25)

English Standard Version Anglicised (ESVUK) The Holy Bible, English Standard Version

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- Devocean, rock, and dachsunds
- Reasons for disconnection
 - o Don't see need
 - o Damaged
 - o Disillusioned
 - o Drifted

ETERNAL PURPOSE – God is gathering a people

- Scattering in judgement ¹

- Gathering in blessing ²

SPIRITUAL REALITY – if you are in Christ, you are part of the church

- Beware individualism

- Bible pictures ³
 - o Body
 - o Building
 - o Family
 - o Nation
 - o Priesthood
 - o City
 - o Flock
 - o Church
 - o Vine
 - o Bride

PRACTICAL OUTWORKING – be devoted to the church

- the local church ⁴
 - o reaching out to God's world
 - o building up God's people



Discussion questions

Where are you currently on the Devotion Spectrometer? What is keeping you from greater devotion to God's people? What can you do about it?

¹ Genesis 11:8; Numbers 10:35; Psalm 68:1; Ezekiel 11:16; 34:6
² Acts 7:38; Deuteronomy 30:3; Isaiah 11:12; Matthew 16:18;

³ Colossians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Romans 12:5; 1 Peter 2:4; Mark 3:35; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 21:2; Hebrews 12:22; John 10:16; 15:5; Revelation 19:7; Ephesians 5:25;
⁴ Matthew 25:40; Hebrews 10:25