



COMMUNITY GROUP NOTES + QUESTIONS

DON'T FALL FOR IT (PART 3): THE RESISTANCE CONTINUED
NOVEMBER 8, 2020
HEBREWS 10:19-25

02

INTRODUCTION

Icebreaker: How long have you attended church (your whole life, a few years/months)? What types of churches have you attended in the past (baptist, catholic, lutheran, pentacostal, etc)?

Answer Tommy's opening question: "Why do we bother with gathering at church?" Do you come just because "that's what Christians do" or "it's what I have always done"? If it is something bigger for you, when did the shift from tradition/duty to a habit of grace happen?

Share about some of your evil days - when you have felt closest to Satan or under attack; were you prepared? If so, how did your proactive resistance (being in his word, prayer, and fellowship) help you on that day?

What lies have you believed about...

- God's word? (untrustworthy/contradictory, confusing/too hard to understand, etc.)
- Prayer? (God doesn't want to hear from you, other people's prayers are more important than yours, You aren't good enough/deserving to talk to God, etc)
- What has helped you to see that these are in fact lies?

Tommy said that the means of grace (word, prayer, and fellowship) allow us to encounter Jesus and enjoy him; they are the tree in which Zacchaeus used to get to have an awesome view of Jesus.

- Does calling spiritual disciplines "habits of grace" and understanding their purpose help to view these less as a chore and as an experience/form of worship?
- After a season of practicing these well, can you describe how your relationship to Jesus was affected?
- Can you tell when these practices are missing? How so?
- How have your reactions to evil days in a season of strong practice differed from your reaction during a season of weak practice?

03

TOMMY CLAYTON

"Habits of grace are the proven biblical channels, throughout the centuries, that people have set themselves in to receive God's favor.. You don't do these so that you earn God's favor, you do these because you already have God's favor through Christ and this is how you get more of it"

3 LIES THE DEVIL TELLS YOU ABOUT BELONGING TO HIS BODY (FELLOWSHIP/WORSHIP)

1

You're better off alone

Have you been trying to "Rambo" through your Christian life? (fighting alone)

Mark 14:33-34; Matthew 26:37-38 Think of the last time your "soul was very sorrowful", did you share that with anyone? Why or why not?

The Hebrew Christians were being persecuted for their beliefs and were scared to gather; the writer encouraged them to continue on - there are many persecuted Christians gathering around the world - what is our excuse? Is it worth it for you to gather no matter what?

How is your church membership influenced when you begin to recognize that when you joined the church you entered into a covenantal community with the other members of GraceLife Church?

- How do you feel about the people in that covenantal community being able to speak into ALL areas of your life?
- How have some of the people within the GraceLife community been able to challenge you or encourage you (Challenge = confronting sin in love; Encourage = support that directs you to look to Christ)?

04

LIES CONTINUED...

2

This is a waste of time. It won't change anything

Where are other places that you attempt to worship? Out in nature or a hobby? Maybe the snooze button?

- Do you actually worship in these situations?
- How do these attempts lack in comparison to gathering with the community?

Psalm 73:16-17 - when was the last time you brought your troubles/weariness into church and received clarity?

What do you miss most when you are unable to attend church? How does this demonstrate to you that gathering is not a waste of time?

3

You Don't Belong Here

Is anyone willing to share about a season in their life in which your guilt, shame, and/or fear kept you from attending a church? Who or what did God use to show you that you do belong?

The world thinks we have it all together but we are held together by Jesus, in what ways have you been held together this week? How can sharing these circumstances with "outsiders" help them to see that they do belong here?

How does Jesus's sacrifice help to give you a new understanding of the significance of fellowship with fellow believers regularly?

“At home in my own house there is no warmth or vigor in me, but in the church when the multitude is gathered together, a fire is kindled in my heart and it breaks its way through.”

Martin Luther