



# Community Group Discussion Guide

## That Thing You Do: Overview – Weekend of January 12-13

### I. Starter Questions:

- Today's Christian church faces many problems. If you were able to have influence over just one of those problems, what would that problem be and how would you try to change it?
- What is one challenge you are facing right now?
- How can gathering together regularly to worship God help us when we are facing challenges?

### II. Discussion of Scripture:

"The more genuine and the deeper our community becomes, the more will everything else between us recede, the more clearly and purely will Jesus Christ and His work become the one and only thing that is vital between us."

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Life Together

#### Hebrews 10:19-25 (ESV)

**19** Therefore, brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, **20** by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let 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. **23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, **25** 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.

#### For Discussion:

1. Hebrews 10 explores what it means to be in the new covenant. In the old covenant, sacrifices had to be made regularly to atone for sins. How is it different in the new covenant? (See 10:12-21).
2. What does this mean for our lives? In 10:19-25, what five things are we told in 10:19-25 to do as members of the new covenant? How do these relate to faith, hope, and love?
3. Why can Christians boldly enter God's presence (Hebrews 10:19)?
4. In the new covenant our sins are paid for by Jesus' sacrifice. This gives us confidence to enter God's presence—but what does it have to do with meeting together and encouraging one another (v. 25)? How does the passage tie these together? (Hint:

see 10: 26-27).

5. Because “we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,” Hebrews tells us, we should think about how to “provoke” one another to love and good deeds (10:24). (Other translations use “spur”, “encourage” or “stimulate”) What do other believers do which most motivates you to “love and good deeds?”
6. What should mark our lives as we come together for worship (Hebrews 10:22)?
7. Why should believers not stop meeting together (Hebrews 10:25)?
8. What is one of the purposes of their meeting together (Hebrews 10:24-25)?

### **III. Responding in Prayer/Preparing to Worship:**

1. Read Rom. 11:33-12:2 together as a group. As we consider preparing our bodies for worship, identify the following:
  - In Rom. 11:33-36, what are the attributes or characteristics of God that are listed?
  - In Rom. 12:1, Paul uses the word “therefore” signifying a follow-up to the previous section (11:33-36). What do you think is Paul’s point in 12”1-2?
  - Read Rom 6:13, 16, and 19 with 12:1-2. How are we required to pursue God according to 12:1-2? What does a ‘proper offering look like according to Paul in these passages?
  - In response to these passages, how are you living according to the grace and righteousness of Christ? Is worship a daily occurrence or only one a week? Spend some time in prayer with God about this.
2. Read Psalm 138 together as a group. As we consider preparing our minds for worship, simply identify how David pursued worship in this prayer to God. What are the names and titles David uses for God
3. and why is that important for worship? How can you apply this same for or prayerful worship in your own life?
4. Read Psalm 9 together as a group. As we consider preparing our hearts for worship, answer the following questions in reference to this Psalm:
  - As you read this Psalm, what are the different themes that arise?
  - What is David’s response to every part of the Psalm?
  - How is David’s heart displaying true worship to God?
  - In the midst of trial and distress how have you expressed worship toward God much like David?