

STIR UP THE RIGHT KIND OF TROUBLE

Hebrews 10:23–25

Big Idea: You were never designed to follow Jesus anonymously.

Bottom Line: God puts people around us to steady us when we are struggling, provoke us when we are comfortable, and encourage us in love.

COME AND SEE

Read Hebrews 10:23–25

“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

1. What stands out to you in these verses?

Notice the repeated communal language: “let us,” “we,” and “one another.”

- What does this passage assume about the role other believers should play in our lives?
- Why do you think following Jesus can become difficult when it becomes isolated or anonymous?

2. Verse 23 connects our perseverance to the faithfulness of God.

- When have you needed someone else to remind you that God was faithful when you were struggling to see it yourself?

Cross Reference: Lamentations 3:21–23

How does remembering God’s faithfulness restore hope?

3. Verse 24 says to “consider” how to spur one another toward love and good deeds.

The word translated **consider** carries the sense of deliberate, careful attention.

- What would it look like for a Christian community to know one another well enough to recognize where someone needs encouragement or challenge?
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FOLLOW ME

4. “Spur one another on” is intentionally strong language.

The word carries the idea of stirring, provoking, or stimulating someone to action.

Love cares enough to interrupt our comfort.

- Who has loved you enough to challenge you when you were drifting, avoiding something, or becoming complacent?
- What makes a challenge helpful rather than judgmental?
- Why can encouragement sometimes require more than simply making someone feel better?

5. Where might you currently need someone to “stir you up”?

Consider these areas:

- Forgiveness or reconciliation
- Marriage or family relationships
- Generosity
- Serving others
- Spiritual habits
- Using your gifts
- Confessing or addressing sin
- Taking a step of faith

Which area creates the most discomfort for you right now? Why?

6. Hebrews says the goal of this stirring is “love and good deeds.”

Read Ephesians 2:10.

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

- What is one “good work” God may already have placed in front of you that you have been delaying?

8. Which of these best describes you in this season?

I need someone to steady me.

I am struggling, tired, discouraged, or uncertain.

I need someone to disturb me.

I have become comfortable or stalled in an area where God is calling me forward.

Someone else needs me.

God may want to use my story, experience, gifts, or presence to strengthen another person.

Share as honestly as you are comfortable.

GO AND BE

9. Healthy Christian community eventually turns outward.

Discuss:

Hebrews moves from gathering together to **love and good deeds**.

- Where could your group serve together?
- What need in your neighborhood, church, workplace, or community has God already put in front of you?

Closing Reflection

CONSIDER.

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Jesus never intended for us to run the race of faith alone.

There will be times when we need someone to steady us in hope. There will be times when we need someone to disturb our comfort. And there will be times when God wants to use us to strengthen somebody else.

Who are you allowing close enough to help you follow Jesus?

And whose life is stronger because you are close enough to them?

Prayer