

**Second Baptist Church**

**“Hour of Power” Bible Study**

*Teacher: Dr. Kevin A. Kelly*

***Series: “Some Assembly Required”***

***23 “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope/faith without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”***

Assembling with believers in the Sanctuary, has such a spiritual significance that when we cease to do it, it will forever have an effect on their soul.

\*The productivity of spirituality

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\*The probability of sustainability

If you see a Christian that’s not experiencing spiritual success through the manifestation of growth, and if you see a Christian that’s not experiencing sustainability, it might be because their souls is not rooted and connected to the source the assembly is designed to be.

We saw, in the life of the Jewish Christians and we still see today, the progression that takes place as Satan desires to displace us from the gathering!

1st: Drifting

(The Unconscious reaction to cultural current)

2nd: Retreating

(The Willful decision to withdraw from the congregation where Faith In Christ is held on to by our Confession, and Fellowship with Christians is helped by our Communal commitment)

But, there is an ultimate destiny to assembly displacement. It’s not just so we can drift and retreat, but it’s so that we can ***Fall Away from the Faith!***

When you read the book of Hebrews, the big issue wasn’t decrease in attendance in the assembly, but the big issue was Apostasy.

Apostasy means a falling away from a position that has already been reached. (You don’t want to regress from the point you have reached in the faith).

Hebrews 6, is the hard and controversial discussion about “Falling away from the faith”.

That was the writer’s concern. That’s why He told them, through the assembly, to “Hold to the confession of their faith” and “Do community with other believers in fellowship”.

But lastly, through the assembly, they were to encourage one another till the coming of the Lord!

Verse 25 said “***Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”***

The word exhort means “to aide, to help, to comfort, but mainly it means to encourage”.

Encouragement keeps us as believers doing what we are supposed to do, in the face of doubt, distrust, and disillusionment.

The practice that keeps us from falling away from the position that we’ve already reached, is the encouragement we receive from one another!

Saints, Sometimes we need somebody to encourage us. And that’s what the assembly does for us!

The writer of the text, instructed them to Encourage one another, until the coming of the day of the Lord!

In their context, and in our context that means two things!

1. **Confer about the Experience**

The word confer means to discuss something with somebody in order to exchange something or get advice

The spiritual dynamic that takes place during encouragement is that when we encourage one another in the process of the Christian experience, we have the ability to confer something upon one another.

There is a spiritual exchange that takes place.

1. **Confirm the Expectation**

Every now and then in faith, when we’re going through our experiences, We need the Saints to Confirm the Expectation of our faith!

A Confirmed Expectation helps us to Hold On and Keep on Keeping on!!