

(En)Courage for Us

HEBREWS 10:23-25

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²³ Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope 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.

Hebrews 10:25

25 not forsaking our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more [faithfully] as you see the day [of Christ's return] approaching. (AMP)

Numbers 21:4 - 4 Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way.

Philippians 3:13-14 - ¹³Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Embrace your imperfection. Realize you are not alone; we are all imperfect.

Stop beating yourself up. Embrace conviction, release guilt.

It is okay to not be okay, it is not okay to stay that way.

Embrace your imperfection to work and press on to be more like Jesus a little more each day.

Colossians 1:9-11 - ⁹For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

Colossians 2:6-7 - ⁶And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

Psalms 84:4-8 - ⁴What joy for those who can live in your house, always singing your praises. *Interlude*
⁵What joy for those whose strength comes from the Lord, who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. ⁶When they walk through the Valley of Weeping, it will become a place of refreshing springs. The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings. ⁷They will continue to grow stronger, and each of them will appear before God in Jerusalem.

**Praise and pain do not like to abide together; they
must be forced to do so.**

To get strength from God, you must go to God.

**You receive strength just by going, by starting the
journey to God's House.**

**It is by setting our hearts to seek and worship God
begins the transformation of our hearts.**

Jerusalem = Corporate worship

Psalm 65:4-5 - ⁴What joy for those you choose to bring near, those who live in your holy courts. What festivities await us inside your holy Temple. ⁵You faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds, O God our savior. You are the hope of everyone on earth, even those who sail on distant seas. (NLT)

Nehemiah 4:10 - ¹⁰Then Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is failing, and *there is* so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall.”

Hebrews 12:3 - ³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

We must lean solely on the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 3:7 - ⁷ ...I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.

1 Corinthians 14:12 - 12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts*, let it be for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel.

What are we zealous for?

Let Love Be Our Highest Goal

Romans 1:11-12 - 11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established— 12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

If I encourage you, I too will become encouraged.

Let Love Be Our Highest Goal

1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 - ⁷ But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing *mother* cherishes her own children. ⁸ So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

Who are we sharing our lives with this morning?