**Connected in Christ (2/11/24)**

**Discussion Questions**

**Summary:** What makes a church a church? What are the fundamental, necessary elements for every church? As we start a new series about relationships, small groups and encouraging one another, we open the book of Hebrews and see the center of real community is Jesus. Four marks of true community: 1) we celebrate Jesus together; 2) we seek God together; 3) we stand firm together and; 4) we serve faithfully together. United around Jesus and the gospel our calling is “to encourage one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching” (Heb. 10:25). Come be encouraged this Sunday and come to be an encouragement!

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Hebrews 10:19-25

“But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins he sat down at the right hand of God… For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.” Hebrews 10:12,14

**What True Community Looks Like:**

1. Celebrate Jesus Together (v. 19-20)
	* Covered by His Sacrifice (v. 12,14)
2. Seek God Together (v. 21-22)
	* Calling on Jesus’ Name (John 14:13-14)
3. Stand Firm Together (v. 23,25)
	* Confident in the Faithfulness of God
4. Serve Faithfully Together (v. 24-25)
	* Consistently Encouraging one another

“Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25

**Get Started:**

1. Describe your first “real friend.” What made that relationship special and memorable? (No family members for this one - your first non-family friend.)
2. What makes for a good relationship? What are the necessary ingredients?

**Dig In:** Read Hebrews 10:19-25

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What do we learn about real Christian community here?
3. Read Heb. 10:11-14. How is the gospel foundational to true connecting? Read v. 19-23 again. How does all of this gospel language set up the exhortation that follows?
4. Read v. 24-25. What are the “let us” exhortations in this whole passage (v. 22-25)? What do the relational commands mean (v. 24-25)?

**Move Forward:**

1. How can we encourage you to draw closer to the Lord this month (v. 22)?
2. How can we encourage you to stand firm in the gospel (v. 23)?
3. How can we stir you up to love and good deeds this week (v. 24)?
4. How can we encourage your heart today (v. 25)?
5. Be sure to save time to pray for each other. You might break into small groups of 3-4 to pray more personally for one another.