



Hebrews 10, NLT

²⁴Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds. ²⁵And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near.



25a And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do . . .

- **Why do many of us stop meeting together?**

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Henri Nouwen, from *Life Together*

The final break through to [community] does not occur, because, though they have fellowship with one another as believers and as devout people, they do not have fellowship as the undevout, as sinners. The pious fellowship permits no one to be a sinner. So everybody must conceal his sin from himself and from the fellowship . . .

Henri Nouwen, from *Life Together*

Many Christians are unthinkably horrified when a real sinner is suddenly discovered among the righteous. So we remain alone with our sin, living in lies and hypocrisy. The fact is what we are sinners . . . The more isolated a person is, the more destructive the power of sin will be over him and the more deeply he becomes involved in it, the more disastrous is his isolation. Sin wants to remain unknown.



25a And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do . . .

- Why do many of us stop meeting together?
- “They who are alone with their sin are utterly alone.”

Proverbs 28:13, NLT & MSG

People who cover over their sins will not prosper. But if they confess and forsake them, they will receive mercy.

You can't whitewash your sins and get by with it; you find mercy by admitting and leaving them.

James 5:16, NIV & NLT & MSG

NLT: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results.

MSG: Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

Hebrews 12, NIV

¹⁴Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

Hebrews 12, NLT

¹⁴Try to live in peace with everyone, and seek to live a clean and holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord. ¹⁵Look after each other so that none of you will miss out on the special favor of God. Watch out that no bitter root of unbelief rises up among you, for whenever it springs up, many are corrupted by its poison.



*but encourage and warn each other,
especially now that the day of his
coming back again is drawing near.*

- Being lovingly intrusive is at the heart of a faith filled community.
- **Q:** Why are we frustrated then?

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*but encourage and warn each other,
especially now that the day of his
coming back again is drawing near.*

- Being lovingly intrusive is at the heart of a faith filled community.
- **Q:** Why are we frustrated then?
- **A:** We lack a grace filled approach.
 - Unmerited = we don't produce or earn it
 - Favor = something beneficial and helpful

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Being Lovingly Intrusive Calls for Grace Filled Accountability

- **Live with the goal in mind - becoming like Jesus.**
 - Colossians 3:1-4

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Colossians 3, NLT

¹Since then you have been raised with Christ set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things . . . your life is now hidden with Christ in God.



Being Lovingly Intrusive Calls for Grace Filled Accountability

- Life change will only happen when we bring structure and discipline from the outside.
 - *The help of a group.*
 - *A plan with specifics: time, place, etc.*
 - *Consistent follow up.*

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Being Lovingly Intrusive Calls for Grace Filled Accountability

- Life change will only happen when we bring structure and discipline from the outside.
 - *Honest evaluation of our weaknesses.*
 - *Built in Consequences.*

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Being Lovingly Intrusive Calls for Grace Filled Accountability

- **GRACE:**
- **Unmerited:** I don't produce it.
- **Favor:** Something good and helpful.
 - *The help of a group.*
 - *A plan with specifics: time, place, etc.*
 - *Consistent follow up.*
 - *Honest evaluation of our weaknesses.*
 - *Built in Consequences.*