

Small Group Discussion Guide on Hebrews 10:19-25

Woodland Heights Christian Church Core Value Connection

This sermon on Hebrews 10:19-25 aligns with the core value of **Biblical Worldview** at Woodland Heights Christian Church. We believe that it is critical to develop a Biblical Worldview in life. It is necessary that the looking glass in which we view the world, society, politics, and justice be a biblical one. A Biblical worldview will produce hope, life, justice, action, and victorious living in the life of a believer. (Romans 12:2)

This sermon's emphasis on choosing to enter the presence of the Savior with confidence this Christmas mirrors the journey of a disciple, challenging us to move beyond admiration of the Christmas story to a surrendered life that invests in eternity and shares the hope of Christ with others. The Big Idea, "Choose to Come into the Presence of the Savior With Conviction and Confidence this Christmas," encourages believers to deepen their walk with Christ, equipping them to honor God in every area of life and fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

Section #1 – ENCOUNTER

"Observing God's Word"

In the 1970s, Chuck Colson was Nixon's feared "hatchet man," a proud political powerhouse who trusted his own strength and success. Then Watergate shattered his world. A friend shared C.S. Lewis's words on pride, and one night in his car, Colson finally broke, wept, and surrendered his life to Christ. He later pled guilty, went to prison, and met Jesus in the place of his deepest humiliation. Out of that shame, God raised up Prison Fellowship, a ministry bringing hope to prisoners and their families and influencing criminal justice reform.

That is Hebrews 10:19–25 in living color: the proud brought low, the guilty drawn near, and a broken man set free to hold fast to hope and stir others up to love and good works in Jesus' name

Let's start our study by anchoring ourselves in Scripture. Read Hebrews 10:19-25 (ESV) as a group, family, or an individual, letting God's Word sink in. Picture the scene: Believers, cleansed by the blood of Christ, drawing near to God with assurance, holding fast to hope, and encouraging one another as the Day approaches.

Core Questions

What do you notice about the words and imagery the writer uses in this passage? Why is this relevant?

- What are key words, phrases, or themes that grab your attention in this text?
- What are the main lessons that you learn from Hebrews 10:19-25?

Section #2 – EXPLORE

"Understanding the Passage and Sermon"

Let's unpack the sermon's foundational truth—choosing to come into the presence of the Savior with conviction and confidence this Christmas—with questions that connect the message's insights to our hearts. Discuss these as a group or reflect on them as an individual.

The sermon opens with sobering statistics from a recent Barna Group study, showing that while many still identify as Christians, fewer allow faith to shape their daily lives—down from 74% in 2000 to 54% today, with only 20% attending church weekly. This cultural drift sets the stage for the searching question: What do you do with Christmas?

- How do these trends reflect challenges in our own lives or community, and what does Hebrews 10:19-25 offer as a response?
- Have you seen faith move from the center to the edges in someone's life? How can Christmas reignite that conviction?

Lesson #1: Approach the Lord With Confidence and Boldly Live a Life of Victory in Christ this Christmas (Hebrews 10:19-21)

The writer of Hebrews celebrates the torn veil and opened way through Christ's blood, inviting us to enter God's presence with boldness—not based on our merit but on His finished work. The sermon highlights this as a breathtaking shift from the old covenant's fear to the new covenant's confidence.

- How does the Apollo 8 astronauts' bold broadcast from space parallel our call to approach God's presence with confidence?
- What barriers in your life might be keeping you from drawing near to God boldly this Christmas?
- How does Ephesians 3:12 encourage you as a Christian today?

Ephesians 3:12 (NLT) – "Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence."

Lesson #2: Anchor Yourself in God's Unshakable Hope this Christmas as You Daily Draw Near to Him in Faithfulness (Hebrews 10:22-23)

We are urged to draw near with true hearts in full assurance and hold fast to our confession of hope, rooted in God's faithfulness. The sermon emphasizes that this hope isn't based on our performance but on Christ's promises, calling us to faithfulness amid distractions.

- What does the story of Saint Nicholas teach us about holding fast to hope and acting faithfully this Christmas?
- How can you practically "draw near" to God daily during this busy season?
- How does the quote from 1 Timothy 4:10 apply to these verses?

1 Timothy 4:10 (NLT) - "For our hope is in the living God, who is the Savior of all people and particularly of all believers."

Lesson #3: This Christmas Put Your Faith into Action as You Reach Out, Build Others Up, and Share the Good News of Great Joy (Hebrews 10:24-25)

The passage calls us to stir one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together but encouraging each other as the Day draws near. The sermon challenges us to turn outward, investing in others like stirring a fire to keep it blazing.

- What does the Candy Bomber story reveal about our role in encouraging others this Christmas?
- How can we "consider how" to stir up love and good works in our community during the holidays?

Section #3 – EMBRACE

"Applying God's Word"

Go deeper into the Word of God by applying what you've learned to your life today. Reflect on these action steps and discuss how you can live out the truths from Hebrews 10:19-25.

Examine Your Response to Christmas

■ Reflect on the question, "What do you do with Christmas?" Write down one way faith has drifted to the edges in your life and a step to recenter it on Christ this week, such as drawing near in daily prayer or confessing hope in a conversation.

Draw Near with Assurance

Identify an area of self-reliance and boldly approach God's throne in prayer. Commit to one act of faithfulness, such as attending a Christmas service or reading Scripture daily.

Stir Up Others Intentionally

■ Consider someone who needs encouragement—a family member, neighbor, or church friend. Plan a specific act, like inviting them to worship, sharing a meal, or sending a note of hope, and discuss with the group how this builds the body of Christ.

Memorize and Reflect

■ Memorize the sermon's key verse, Hebrews 10:23 (NLT): "Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep His promise." Reflect on & Share with the group how God's faithfulness empowers you to encourage others.

Closing Challenge

As a group, pray for one another to surrender fully to the Christ of Christmas, drawing near with confidence, holding fast to hope, and stirring each other to love. Encourage each member to take at least one action step above and follow up next week to share how God worked through your obedience. Consider inviting someone to a Christmas service or joining a discipleship group to grow together in the presence of the Savior.