

Covenant Community (Hebrews 10:19-25)

Mothers Day 2024
Pastor Caitlyn Schan

THE BIG IDEA

The covenant community of the church comes alongside us in our faith journey. As we do life together, we are able to draw near to God in faith, encourage each other to hold on to hope in hard times, and challenge one another to love even more radically.

OPENING

- What was Mothers' Day like for you this year?
- How has the church community helped you during a hard time?

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Leviticus 16:11-19. What did the role of the High Priest and all that came with it teach the people about the holiness of God?
- Read Hebrews 4:14-16. With the background of Leviticus, how would this passage have been read? What is their confidence?
- Read Hebrews 9:14. Hughes in his commentary on Hebrews says this, "Under the Old Covenant, when priests were consecrated they were sprinkled with blood (Exodus 29:21). Also, when the Old Covenant began, the people had been sprinkled with blood (Exodus 24:8). But with the New Covenant, when the people of this Hebrew church came to faith, their hearts were inwardly "sprinkled" with Christ's blood to cleanse them "from a guilty conscience" (9:14). For the first time in their lives the guilt was completely gone, and their conscience rested easy."¹ Thinking back to the Leviticus passage and the Hebrews one, how significant was this? Has guilt ever kept you from fully drawing near to God in faith?

¹ Hughes, R. K. (1993). [*Hebrews: an anchor for the soul*](#) (Vol. 2, p. 34). Crossway Books.



- Read Deuteronomy 7:9, Lamentations 3:22-23, and Hebrews 6:19-20. How do you define the faithfulness of God? How is it an anchor for you?
- Martin Luther said this, “At home in my own house there is no warmth or vigor in me, but in the church when the multitude is gathered together, a fire is kindled in my heart and it breaks its way through.” Has this been your experience of church and the community? How does it challenge you and help you grow?
- “Spurring” one another on to love comes from this word that can even mean irritate. It is about confronting someone and really challenging them. Do you have anyone in your life that holds you accountable?

PUTTING IT TO WORK

- What is one way that your small group can support one another this week? Perhaps take a name of one person who you will connect with at least 3 times this week and either send a verse, a little prayer, or a word of encouragement to them.

PRAYER REQUESTS