

Daily Devotions: Groups

Monday 2nd November

Hebrews 10:19-25

Clearly “meeting” (vs 25) means more than simply being in the same room as other Christians. Presumably there is sufficient *depth* to this meeting for us to be able to spur one another on (lit. “provoke one another”) and encourage each other to grow in Christ.

Questions: As you reflect on vs 24-25, underline the words below that characterize the sort of meeting the writer has in mind:

Openness Truthfulness Love Accountability Safety

Is “provoking each other to love and good deeds” an intentional or spontaneous action?

Who do you meet with regularly for this purpose?

Tuesday 3rd November

Genesis 1: 26-27 and 2:18-25

One aspect of being made in God’s image is that we are relational creatures: we are not meant to live our lives alone.

Questions: Can pets, or God himself, fully satisfy Adam’s need for companionship?

Gen 2:21-25 primarily refers to an ideal marriage. As you pray, thank God for your marriage partner (if you have one) and all the other people you can think of who help you to know that you are not alone (list as many as you can).

Wednesday 4th November

Acts 2:41-47

Questions: Which aspects of the early church gatherings have been true in your experience this year? List the ones that would be helpful to add to your experience. Talk to God about this.

Thursday 5th November

Romans 12:3-8

We can “over-think” ourselves (vs 3) by being self-reliant and self-centred, forgetting that we were made to belong and to serve.

Questions: List, or share, some of your own qualities, abilities and experiences that have shaped you as a Christian.

What could you do over the next few weeks to develop the part you play in the body of Christ?

Daily Devotions: Groups continued

Friday 6th November

Ephesians 4:11-16

Questions: *According to vs 11-13, what is the purpose of apostles, prophets, pastors and teachers in your own life, and in the life of the church?*

Is there a truth that you still need to speak to someone lovingly?

Is there something you need to work at so that you can engage more fully in Christian body-building?

Saturday 7th November

Ephesians 4:20-32

Questions: *Sometimes we can speak a little too truthfully to our Christian brothers and sisters (especially if we live in the same home)! In what ways does Paul qualify how we speak truthfully to others (vs 26-32)? Is there one of these you need to use just now?*

Sunday 8th November

Colossians 4:2-6

The church at Colossae was a little like St Matthew's Manly... Paul was not directly involved in establishing it (Col 1:5-7).

In chapter 3 Paul challenges his readers to put on the clothing that suits God's children (goodness and love).

His final challenge, in Ch 4, is a call for the church (not just individuals) to devote themselves to prayer, including prayer for him.

Questions: *In what ways do you show that you are devoted to prayer?*

Contact a friend and ask them to pray for your own Christian witness: in particular, for an opportunity to say something to promote Jesus to a person you care for, and to do something to show them Christian love in action.