

Hebrews 10:24-25

I was recently talking with a Christian about why we need to be in the assembly with other Christians. One passage, **Hebrews 10:25**, commands us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. The Lord's authority should be sufficient motivation for our obedience. However, this passage gives us more to consider and more reason to attend every chance we get.

Verse **24** is the key to verse **25**, and I make it a point never to use verse **25** without verse **24** (just as I don't use **Acts 16:31** without **Acts 16:33**). Verse **24** says to "consider one another." We need to think about the people we meet with. We need to think about their spiritual need for encouragement.

Considering our *brother's* need for encouragement should be a greater motive for attending than *our* need for encouragement. This principle will cause us to examine our reasons for *not* attending, and they become our reasons *for* attending. Ironically, this means the better the "reason" is for not attending becomes that much greater the reason to attend for your brother's sake.

For example, the Hebrews were suffering financially because they were Christians (**Heb. 10:34**). If you were debating whether to attend or not because of the sacrifice involved, just think of your brother going through a similar hardship and in need of your encouragement. If you do not go to encourage him, he will be discouraged. Also, you will be that much more discouraged from having missed the encouragement you would have received from him and the other brothers. Remember, the greater the obstacle to attendance, the greater need for encouragement to overcome it. This is true for everybody, not just the ones we call "weak."