



PART 3: DEVIOUS DISCONNECTION

Sermon Notes

Text: Hebrews 10:19-25

Intro:

Overcoming the greatest challenges that no one expects and everyone experiences.

Technology has enabled us to be connection to millions around the world, while being disconnected to the people who are right in front of us.

Technology isn't evil. It just amplifies what's already there.

Hebrews 10:19-25

Our fundamental problem is our disconnection from God.

Old Testament system for connecting with God: Temple -> Priest -> Sacrifice...all replaced by Jesus!

Our restored connection with God is sustained by our connection to the community of faith.

Solitude may be a gift from God, but isolation is a tool of the enemy

Why not gather?

1. Apathy/Indifference

- 2. Fear of persecution
- 3. Distraction
- 4. Pride
- 5. Loss of urgency

How do we win the battle against disconnection?

1. Slow down

"Love has a speed. And it's slower than I am. There's a good chance it's slower than you are. Love pauses. Love lingers, Love offers full focus and gives far more than it takes. When I run too fast, I outrun love, and the people I love pay the price." ~Carey Nieuwhof

- 2. Foster the art of genuine conversation
- 3. Bring back the confession booth

Conclusion:

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

- 1. When did you get your first cell phone? Why did you get it? In what ways has it become more of a burden that a helpful tool? How do you battle against the temptation to use it to disconnect from the people closest to you?
- 2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

- 1. What would you say to the Christian who says they can have a healthy relationship with God without being committed to regular fellowship in a Christian community?
- 2. Read Acts 2:42-47. This summarizes the activities of the earliest Christians. They were "devoted" to several community based practices. These believers gathered EVERY DAY (v. 46) for worship, prayer and mutual encouragement. Maybe today daily gatherings are unrealistic or unnecessary, but what do you think drove this major emphasis on gathering for the early church? What are the biggest benefits you experience when you gather for a church service or Life Group meeting?
- 3. Consider the five reasons for not gathering (see notes). Would you add any to the list? How do you see these reasons affecting people today? Which of the five would be the most likely one to keep you from regularly gathering for Church or Life Group? How can you combat that issue?

Application:

1. Consider the pace of your life. Do you need to slow down in order to make room for connection? What will you do this week in order to purposely slow down?

Prayer:

 Pray for wisdom and strength in the battle against disconnection.

Other Requests

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