Loving One Another Hope Chapel Honolulu Hebrews 10:23-25

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:23-25, NIV)

Introduction

Jesus said that the greatest command was to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and that the next was to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. This second greatest command requires practice and application. While it may seem a little narrow-minded to begin by loving Christians, two simple facts are that 1) if we can't love those who are true Christians we won't do well with "loving our neighbors as we love ourselves" and 2) God lets the world judge our relationship with Him by our love for one another.

1. Choose to love the people of Hope Chapel Honolulu. (Hebrews 10:19-25)

a) Make fellowship with the people of Hope Chapel Honolulu a priority.

b) Encourage one another toward love and good works.

2. Choose to love one another with sincerity. (1 Peter 1:22-25)

a) Recognize and accept one another without prejudice or favoritism.

b) Learn to speak and receive the truth in love with one another.

3. Choose to love, accept, forgive and build up one another. (Romans 15:1-7)

a) Be honest in appraising both yourself and others.

b) Trust God to work in your life and in the lives of others as He is at work in you.

Conclusion

These words of Christ give us clear direction and also give the world permission to judge our relationship with God by our relationships with one another: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another " (John 13:34-35, ESV).

For our prayerful study, discussion and application:

- 1. What were you reminded of or learned anew through this week's theme?
- 2. With whom do you practice "worship, humility and dialogue" and how often?
- 3. What will you do this week to improve your fellowship with the people of HCT?

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