Sermon Questions for PCC Small Groups

**Title: From the Ark to the Table: Why Fellowship is not Optional Text:**

Text: Hebrews 10:19-39

**Series:** Easter

**Date Preached:** April 23, 2017

**Introductory Comments:** Pray for the Spirit’s guidance and illumination (that he turns on the light). This is text and message about how Christian community (the church) and her weekly gathering (liturgy) is *indispensible to* the gospel because it’s the *product of* the gospel! The warning part of the text is sobering to say the least. We mustn’t remove this warning from it’s context and turn it into a Calvinism/Arminian debate! The warning is simply stating the plain facts about what can happen to people if they disregard fellowship, discipleship, and weekly worship.

**Questions:**

1. After reading verse 19-25, do you agree with Brian’s statement that… “the *exhortation* to “do something” must follow the *exposition* of gospel truth!” That truth must precede the call to action?
2. Summarize the preacher’s point or truth when he begins by saying, “Since we have…” and “Since we have…”. What, exactly, do we *have* that should change the way we live?
3. Review the five-fold exhortation that follows. Do these seem to have a common theme or are they random? What do these exhortations reveal about the preacher’s deep concern for his flock?
4. If you heard the sermon on Sunday, you’ll remember how the metaphor of what happened on the Jewish Day of Atonement (Lev. 16) didn’t end with the Sin Offering (atonement for sins) but with the Peace Offering or Fellowship Offering where they ate the roasted goat together in the presence of God. Can you see how the preacher may have had this in mind as he preached this particular text? How so?
5. In the warning verses that follow, how is it possible for a Christian to “trample underfoot the blood that sanctified him” and “insult the Spirit of grace”?
6. How does the preacher appeal to the “early years” of his people’s faith journey to call them back into fellowship and discipleship?
7. Many Christians have given up on church? What are the reasons? Based on this particular text, how would you argue that you can’t be a Christian without the church?