

## WHY ASSEMBLE?

1. Text: Hebrews 10:23-25
2. This is our third lesson dealing with assembling together as Christians. Notice verse 25: We are told not to forsake that gathering.
3. Why is assembling so important? Why did the early church consider it so vital, and, therefore, why do we?

### I. Consecration

1. To consecrate is to declare or set apart as holy or sacred, to dedicate to a spiritual purpose.
2. A sanctified time in a secular world. To renew, commit, give our bodies as a living sacrifice. Hebrews 2:12 In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to you. Ephesians 3:21 To Him be glory in the church to all generations.
3. Everett Ferguson: Only in relation to the transcendent do temporal things appear in the right perspective.

### II. Communication

1. By assembling we communicate to our world our values, priorities, attitudes.
2. Matthew 7:20 By their fruits you will know them.
3. Identity and definition: "church-goers"
4. The church as "the church" or assembly, expresses itself and its beliefs.

### III. Community

1. Communal: of or belonging to, sharing in whatever.
2. Expression of fellowship or a spiritual partnership. Acts 2:42
3. Terms: Koine or common, "together," "body life" mutual, reciprocal, or interchange, unity.
4. Hebrews 10:25 sin, not against institution, but brethren.

### IV. Construction

1. To construct: to build up, to edify.
2. I Corinthians 14:26 When you come together, let all things be done for edification.
3. Colossians 3:16 as example: teaching and admonishing one another by singing.

### V. Communion And Contribution

1. These two should be done on the first day of the week.
2. Acts 20:7 They met for the Lord's Supper on Sunday.
3. I Corinthians 16:1-2 The contribution is to be taken at the regular Sunday worship.
4. Both are vitally important.

### VI. Cooperation

1. Assembling makes it possible for all kinds of cooperative efforts. To work or act together toward a common end or purpose.
2. Symphony or soloist?
3. Synergy and responsibilities.
4. II Timothy 2:15 and Bible classes; summer series; campaigns.

### VII. Companionship

1. Acts 2:46 They continued daily with one accord in the temple.
  2. Hebrews 10:25 They encouraged one another.
  3. Romans 12:15 Rejoicing and weeping together.
  4. Acts 4:23 They went to their own company. "The company of the committed"
- Conclusion:

