



**Second Baptist Church  
“Hour of Power” Bible Study**

*Teacher: Dr. Kevin A. Kelly*

*Series: “Some Assembly Required”*

***23 “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope/faith without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”***

This week, as I introduce this lesson, I want to further describe what the Saints did as a result of the persecution they were under: First, they Drifted Unconsciously and then they Retreated decidedly!

Which means they withdrew. They withdrew from the assembly for the sake of their own safety. They drew back from what they had been drawn to. They consciously decided they weren’t going!

They removed themselves from the activity of the assembly!

But what they didn’t realize is ***when you remove yourself from the activity of the assembly:***

***You reduce the productivity of your spirituality  
&  
You reduce the probability of your sustainability!***

If anything manifests in your Christian life, and if you make it in this life, it will be because of the organic reality of the church. When the church, that’s a living organism, lives in you and you live in it:

***It will produce results and fruit in your life!  
&  
It will help you make it through the pressures of life!***

The trick of the enemy is He wants us to withdraw from the assembly!

***You can either be Withdrawn from Its Presence or Withdrawn from It’s True Purpose!***

We have to embrace the assembly’s true purpose, if we’re going to see the assembly’s true power!!!

There’s a divine purpose behind us gathering weekly and assembling regularly.

***First: It’s so that we can hold on to the Confession of our Faith***

That’s why the writer said, “holding on to the confession of our faith”

But there is an even greater intention.

***It is so we can be helped by Communal Fellowship!!***

The importance of our attendance in the assembly is not only centered upon our Faith in Christ, but it's centered upon our Fellowship with other Christians!

*The Faith element of the assembly is essential to what we believe being sustained.  
So that we can make it through hard and trying times. So that we won't waver at every contrary wind of doctrine.*

*The Fellowship element of the assembly is essential to what we believe being supported, so that there is a human expression given to support our divine experience!!*

Fellowship with other Christians is essential to your life of Faith in Christ!  
(*You can't withdraw from the Fellowship and think you going to stay in faith*).

God has so designed it that Fellowship is the dynamic that keeps us rooted in faith.

***Fellowship is a Communal Mindset of the members of the assembly!!!!***

The word describes the beautiful relationship of faith which connects true Christians to God and to each other. In the Greek, it is Koinonia. (It means partnership or community). It is basically a bond for a united purpose. The nature of the bond varies depending on the nature of the purpose!

In the text, related to the Hebrews, the writer expressed the idea of fellowship in the assembly! He said "Consider one another, in order to stir each other in love and good works". That's what we're going to deal with tonight.

When I looked at the text (verse 24), and considered it's meaning, I discovered one of the truest purposes of our fellowship!

**Purpose: It is so that our Communing together in the Assembly might cause everything God put in us to manifest!!!**

Our Fellowship ought to provoke one another!!

Not in the bad sense of the word, when we use it to mean offend or irritate, but it means to "arouse, excite or to call out or into action"

When we provoke we call out something within another!

In closing, Not only does the writer say that we ought to be provoking one another, but it says, we ought to rspur one another. PAROXUSMOS

Means to poke with something sharp!

This not only means to get what's in you to manifest, but it means to get you Moving!