

## “Because of the Cross”

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Hebrews 10:19-25 (ESV)

### THE CONTEXT (10:1-18)

To Jewish converts who were contemplating reverting to Judaism because of persecution, the author sought to help them see that faith in God through Jesus Christ was superior to the Law. It was superior to the Law because Jesus did what the Law could not do – permanently take away sins once and for all, thereby, sanctifying (i.e., making perfectly holy before God) all who believe in Jesus. Jesus accomplished this by offering his body on the cross. (v. 10)

### WHAT CHRISTIANS HAVE BECAUSE OF THE CROSS DESPITE THEIR SINFULNESS

#### 1. Confidence to have a \_\_\_\_\_ with the most holy God. (vv. 19-20)

- The curtain in the Holy of Holies that separated sinful humanity from Holy God had warned “Keep out!” But, the tearing of the curtain announced, “Come in!”
- Since the death of Jesus removed the sin barrier, I am free, not only to enter God’s presence, but to enter with confidence knowing that I am loved and accepted.

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ to God the Father. (v. 21)

- I do not need mediators – e.g., priests, rituals – to gain access to God. The only Mediator between God and humanity is Jesus Christ. He has opened for believers a direct channel to God the Father!

## WHAT CHRISTIANS SHOULD DO BECAUSE OF THE CROSS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to God. (v. 22)
  - Today I can and should approach the Lord with the full assurance that He has accepted me through my faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ unwaveringly to the hope I profess. (v. 23)
  - I can hold to God’s Word and promises because He is faithful.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ one another to love and good works. (vv. 24-25)
  - Believers need to be \_\_\_\_\_ to one another. (v. 25a)  
We should not be isolationists in our thinking or behavior. Isolation makes for weakness in the body of Christ. We need one another and cannot function effectively without deep links into each other’s lives.
  - Believers need to \_\_\_\_\_ one another in their faith. (v. 25b)  
The Christian life is a community effort. Spiritual encouragement from one another is God’s appointed means to enable believers to hold their faith firmly to the end. We are to fight to maintain each other’s faith, by speaking words that point people to the truth and value of Jesus.

### CENTRAL TRUTH:

Believers are fully accepted by holy God despite their sinfulness because Jesus has sanctified them by dying on the cross.

\*\* LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at [www.ynccla.org](http://www.ynccla.org).

\*\* CDs of today’s message as well as previous weeks’ sermons are available in the YNCC office. Sermons are also viewable online at [www.ynccla.org/sermons](http://www.ynccla.org/sermons).

