

Meeting God's People

Introduction

There is no doubt that mutual encouragement has an important part to play in our growth as Christians. We know this from our own experience- and we know it from the Bible. Time and again the Bible uses the phrase "one another" in relation to the Christian Life. We are, among other things, to greet one another, love one another, serve one another, be kind and compassionate to one another, be patient with one another, teach and admonish one another, build one another up, encourage one another and spur one another on to love and good deeds.

It goes without saying then that the meeting together of God's people is of fundamental importance. We cannot exercise a one another ministry if we are not meeting with one another on a regular basis. What is striking is that when we meet with one another, we do so in the presence of the Living Lord Jesus so that our meeting together is not merely a social event but a gospel event, one designed by God to help us to grow in our faith and to persevere to the very end.

Study Questions

Read Matthew 18vs20; Answer the following questions from the text.

1. What is distinctive about the meeting described in Matthew 18vs20?
2. What promise does Christ make regarding those who meet in His Name?

Read Colossians 3vs1-17. Answer the following questions from the text.

1. Where should we 'set' our hearts and minds as Christians? Why?

2. What practical implications will this have for the way we treat each other?
3. According to Colossians 3vs15-17, what should characterise our meeting together?

Read Hebrews 3vs12-14, Hebrews 10vs25-25

1. Why should we take the trouble to encourage one another?
2. What should we encourage each other to do?
3. What should we not neglect as Christian people? Why?

Think it Through _____

What have you learnt from this study about:

1. Our relationships with fellow believers?
2. Our expectations and responsibilities when we meet together?