WHY GO TO CHURCH?
HEB. 10:19-25 / 5-2-21 / SUN

I. FIRST, WE SHOULD GO TO CHURCH BECAUSE JESUS PAID A HIGH PRICE FOR IT.

A. The privilege to go to church was made possible by the sacrificial death of Jesus—
   10:19-20 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place
   by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body.

B. Going to church means symbolically coming into the presence of God because of the great price Jesus paid.

II. SECOND, WE SHOULD GO TO CHURCH BECAUSE THE CHURCH IS GOD’S PLAN.

A. These Jewish readers remember the importance of the High Priest’s role in Judaism.

B. Jesus is every Christian’s High Priest who acts as our go-between or mediator with God—
   Heb. 4:14 …we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God…

C. It was God’s plan from the very beginning that His Church replace the Temple—
   1 Cor. 3:16-17 Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in
   your midst? 17….and you together are that temple (The Church).

III. THIRD, WE SHOULD GO TO CHURCH BECAUSE THAT’S WHERE WE CAN GROW IN OUR FAITH. HOW?

A. First, church is one place where we grow closer to God—
   10:22 Let us draw near to God. How?

   1. First, we draw near to God by our faith—
      10:22…With a sincere heart and with (THE) full assurance that (OUR) faith brings.

   2. Second, we draw near to God by our forgiveness—
      10:22…Having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our
      bodies washed with pure water.

B. Second, church is one place where we find encouragement—
   10:25…not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one
   another….

C. Third, church is one place where we are challenged to live a godly life—
   10:24…And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.