



Cuyahoga
Valley Church

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 10.13.24
Hebrews 3:12-15 (Part 2) // Joe Valenti

Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip
Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

CONNECT (10 MIN)

- ① In the sermon on Sunday, Pastor Joe shared a story about his friend being delayed by a hurricane that he thought wouldn't be a big deal - but then it was. Can you think of a time that you underestimated something and didn't realize your mistake until later (maybe it was a storm, a vacation, a task - it could be anything!)?

EXPLORE (30 MIN)

Create Context (5 min): You can watch the Sermon Recap Video [HERE](#).

Study & Discussion (25 min)

Read Hebrews 3:12-15 out loud together as a group.

- ② Pastor Joe said on Sunday, "The church is no place for radical individualism. It doesn't work" (refer to Carl Trueman quote in Sermon Notes).
 - Do you think Americans are particularly tempted to bring radical individualism into the church? Why or why not?
 - What do you think we at CVC can do to help one another live faithfully in community as Christians, participating in church body life together?
- ③ On Sunday the question was asked, "Is your privacy more important than your perseverance?" Read James 1:2-4 (NIV) and Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) (the NIV uses the word "perseverance" in these verses, while other versions use similar words like steadfastness or endurance).
 - Why is the idea of perseverance so important in the Christian life?
 - What does it look like to value privacy more than perseverance, and what can we do to correct this incorrect evaluation in ours or in others' lives?



- ④ Pastor Joe said in his sermon that sometimes we might prefer to be coddled instead of challenged. Look up the definition of the word "coddle," and compare it to the definition of the word "encourage." What is the difference between coddling someone and encouraging someone? Now, look up the word "exhort."
- How can we know the best words to say to someone in any given situation?
 - How can we keep the gospel central to our speech, whether we are encouraging, exhorting, correcting, or rebuking?
- ⑤ Read Hebrews 3:13, 1 Timothy 4:13, and 2 Timothy 4:2.
- Why do you think exhortation is such an important part of life in Christian community? As you answer, consider Joe's statement on Sunday that in Christian community, we should be able to say to one another in love, "I care more about your perseverance in the faith than I do about you liking me."
 - When was the last time you exhorted someone? (Without naming names) was that difficult for you to do? How did you approach it?
 - When was the last time someone exhorted you? How well did you receive the exhortation? How can you grow in the areas of giving and receiving exhortation?
- ⑥ Take a moment to review the accountability questions at cvconline.org/aq.
- Which of these questions seem most intimidating to you, and why? Why do you think that regular and direct accountability can be intimidating at times?
 - Do you currently have a person, or a group of people, asking you these types of questions on a regular basis? Why or why not?
- ⑦ Joe shared three potential action steps in the sermon on Sunday (see below). Which of these action steps best applies to you right now? If you feel that none of them apply to you, then what other action step do you think is a good idea for you in this season?

Potential Action Steps:

1. Pursue church membership (text "member" to 440-276-5575)
2. Get connected in a LifeGroup (cvconline.org/groups)
3. Help one another prepare for attacks. (cvconline.org/aq)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Knowing the Bible: Hebrews - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowning-bible-hebrews/>
- TGC Course:Introduction to Hebrews - <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/hebrews-introduction/>

PRAY AND APPLY

This week we are going to use the Prayer Points that Pastor Joe wrote into the Sermon Notes:

1. Pray for a Heart Open to Accountability

Pray that we would be willing to receive loving correction and not resist accountability. Pray that we would see accountability as a gift from God that helps us grow in holiness and remain faithful to Christ.

2. Pray for Awareness of Spiritual Danger

Pray that we would be awakened to the subtle and deceptive ways the enemy attacks, as highlighted in the sermon. Ask God to give us spiritual discernment to recognize the "warning signs" in our lives and take action before we drift too far from Christ.

3. Pray for a Deep Commitment to Community

Ask God to move us to value our Christian community over privacy, realizing that perseverance in faith requires walking alongside others. Pray that we would prioritize deep, meaningful relationships in LifeGroups and Workshops where accountability and encouragement can thrive.

4. Pray for Strength in Facing Temptation

Pray that we would understand the seriousness of sin, as illustrated by the lion analogy. Ask God to empower us to resist temptation and to see sin for what it is—something that grows and devours if not dealt with. Pray for strength to overcome temptation before it takes root.

MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 2:18

“For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.”



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EQUIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 10.13.24

Please take a moment to share these announcements with your group.

More information on each item can be found by scanning the QR codes.

CHURCH - WIDE

Explore CVC Class: October 20, 2024

Membership moves us from an observer to a participant and from a consumer to a contributor. It is a public affirmation of a commitment to Christ and to a specific local body. To consider membership, your first step is attending Explore CVC.

Explore CVC is our regularly-offered class that helps you explore the foundations of who we are as a church, including our history, what we believe, and our mission. It is also your next step toward membership.



CVCKIDS

Trunk or Treat: October 27, 2024

You're invited to join us for Trunk or Treat, a fun, family event for our church family and surrounding communities. Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 27 from 4 - 5:30 pm.

If you would like to decorate your vehicle and participate in treat hand outs, please fill out the form [HERE](#) and submit no later than Wednesday, October 23rd.



CHURCH - WIDE

Night Of Worship & Prayer: November 6, 2024

Join us for a Night of Worship and Prayer at CVC Broadview Heights campus. Come together as a community to lift our voices in worship and seek God in prayer. The CVC choir will be a part of this special evening and will be a time of reflection, connection, and spiritual renewal.

