

January 21, 2018

**NOW WHAT?  
Back to the Basics**

**DISCIPLINE – Part 3  
THE EXERCISE OF MEETING TOGETHER**

**Introduction**

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*The Letter to the Hebrews will give us one – one reason why some people seem to fall away from the faith.*

**Context**

In every case the problem was the same: **Losing their original confidence in Christ.**

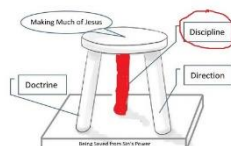
Text: [Hebrews 3:7–14](#)

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Now What?



**Holding Our Original Confidence**

**The Two Opposite Realities**

Please note the mind of the Spirit. Two opposite realities are taught in this passage:

1. "An evil, unbelieving heart;"<sup>1</sup> and in contrast,
  2. "Our original confidence firm to the end."<sup>2</sup>
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<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (Heb 3:12). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

<sup>2</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. (2016). (Heb 3:14). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

What happened? The diagnosis of the Holy Spirit is this: They were “hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”<sup>1</sup> So, notice again the downward spiral:

Expressed faith in Christ

→ tricked by sin’s pleasure

→ hard, unbelieving heart; and

→ then we hear these horrible words: “fall[ing] away from the living God.”<sup>2</sup>

Note the solution that we are given: **“But exhort one another every day . . .” (Hebrews 3:13, ESV).** How do we do that? **“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24–25, ESV)**

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### Conclusion

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*Sanctification, growth in holiness is a community project. It takes a church to grow a Christian. I don't have to meet together with Christians to be a Christian; but I can't be one without it.*

### Application

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What does that look like if we are to obey this text?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

**“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’ . . .” (Hebrews 3:13, ESV).**

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