

Hebrews: The Complete Work of Christ
Life in the Faith Community
Hebrews 13:7-14

We are inundated with politics. We are pressed on all sides by media outlets no longer trust, or should no longer trust. It can be emotionally discouraging and physically draining trying to live life in this world. That is how it has been since Genesis 3. But for those who have placed their trust in Christ, there is hope. While we must still live life in this world, we are also spiritually connected to others as the body of Christ, and God gives us what is supposed to be a refuge, a respite from this world. He gives us the gift of life in the faith community.

1. We are to remember the trustworthiness of the gospel.

2. We are to reject various and strange doctrines.

3. We are to render gratitude to God and generosity toward others.

Church life can be difficult. Relationships can get strained because the church is made up of people. But when we focus on the things that matter most, and when we understand that Jesus is the owner and that he sets the agenda, then life in the faith community can be encouraging, uplifting, and very rewarding as we see the will of God done in our lives and as we see the kingdom of God advanced in our city through us.

For further consideration:

As we live life in the community of faith, we should keep several things in mind. We are to consider the examples of godly leaders and not discount them. We should respond to the gospel with a desire to embrace sound doctrine. We should be mindful of others and be willing to express gratitude for being able to meet their needs or for having our needs met. We should consider the impact of our responses to leadership and whether or not our responses advance the kingdom or detract from it. With that in mind, are there any changes in your current schedule that you can consider that will help you be more invested in the faith community? Are there things that you can simplify in your life that will let you be more generous to others? What are the things that seem to rob your affections for Christ and keep you from being grateful?