

“encourage one another”

The Lord's Day

Hebrews 10:24-25

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24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. **25** Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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“The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.”

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Regular Observance

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“In a very real sense, the Lord’s Day is the day by which all other days are judged. The Lord’s Day is the one day when we affirm that Christians are to give priority not only to acts of personal devotions and and discipleship in obedience to Christ but also to corporate worship...”

the gathered community of the church is called together on the Lord's Day to fulfill the biblical command that we not forsake the assembling of ourselves together.”

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The First Day of the Week

Exodus 20:8-11

8 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

10 but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. **11** For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

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“There is no question that the Sabbath command, as revealed in the Ten Commandments, focused on the seventh day of the week-the day we know as Saturday. Thus, the Jewish people have considered Saturday as the Sabbath from Old Testament times. This raises a very important distinction and a crucial question for the church: is the Lord’s Day the Sabbath?”

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John 20:19

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

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1 Corinthians 15:3-5

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance : that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

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Acts 2:1-4

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. **2** Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

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Acts 20:7

On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight.

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“The Sunday observance of the Lord’s Day certainly points to the centrality of the resurrection to the Christian faith... It is absolutely clear that from the earliest days of the church, Christians gathered on Sunday rather than on Saturday.”

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“The writings of the early church fathers confirm that the church continued to meet on Sunday after the NT period... there is no NT command to keep the Sabbath.”

MacArthur NIV Study Bible

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Worship and Spiritual Devotions

“Sensitive and difficult questions relate to what Christians should do and should not do on the Lord’s Day, and Christians sometimes disagree...

Christians should strive to order their lives so that they do not neglect the priority of corporate worship on the Lord’s Day.”

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Mark 2:23-28

23 One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grain fields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. **24** The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?” **25** He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need?”

26 In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.” **27** Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. **28** So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

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“The Jewish authorities had turned the Sabbath into a burden for God’s people. Rabbis were involved in pointless debates over what could and could not be done on the Sabbath. Jesus rebuked this kind of thinking when He told the Pharisees: “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.”

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Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

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Ephesians 5:18-20

18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, **20** always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Colossians 3:16-17

16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. **17** And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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Romans 14:5-6

5 One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. **6** He who regards one day as special does so to the Lord. He who eats meat does so to the Lord, for he give thanks to God; and he who abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God.

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2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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Corporate Worship should consist of:

- **The preaching of God’s Word**
- **Songs and Hymns**
- **Scripture reading**
- **Prayer**

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**Private Worship should
consist of:**

- **Scripture reading**
- **Prayer**
- **Acts of Christian service**

Applications

- **Honoring Christ on the Lord's Day involves corporately worshiping together**
- **Honoring Christ on the Lord's Day after corporate worship is necessary**
- **How you honor Him after corporate worship is an individual decision based on your Christian conscience**

Final Thoughts

Colossians 2:16-19

16 Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. **17** These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

18 Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person also goes into great detail about what he have seen; and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions. **19**

He has lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.