



Pointes to Ponder

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. (NASB95)

Over that past week I've had opportunity to speak to many of you. As a result, the Pointe I've been Pondering is the grace of our Lord Jesus that is evidenced in and through the body of Christ here at EastPointe. Even deprived of the use of our building for weekly fellowship the church seems strong. Time after time, conversation after conversation I keep hearing some repeating themes.

The first recurring idea and perhaps the most oft repeated, and it was nearly unanimous, we all really miss one another! More than a superficial agreement with that sentiment it was stated over and over in no uncertain terms. This a naturally encouraging result of being in the habit of regularly assembling and is of course the design of the Chief Shepherd. And as your local shepherds we are greatly encouraged to hear of it happening.

Another persisting theme is perhaps distinct yet inseparable from the first. So many of you either told of ways that you or others were looking for "one-anothering" opportunities or you asked if there were any needs to be met. What love you display and how incredibly encouraging!

What a blessing it was to me to hear so many accounts of your love and good deeds for the body of Christ. In the context of Hebrews and in our experience, this wonderful reality flows from accurate teaching. From the faithful and clear proclamation of the gospel of Jesus, you have Learned Christ, you have grown to Love Him and you are Living Him in abundance. We Praise God for you and with you for this excellent evidence of abundant grace especially in these interesting times.

Know that it is a privilege and a joy to shepherd such a body of believers. Thank you for your obedience to Christ. With love and in great encouragement, my prayer for you this week and until we assemble again is that...

...the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, 21 equip you in every good thing to (continue to) do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20 (NASB95)

Pastor Keith