**Why Church Matters**

**Hebrews 19:19-25; God’s Instrument for Support and Encouragement**

85% of the world’s population suffers from low self-esteem. This impacts us to doubt ourselves, our abilities, choosing to avoid trying new things, engaging with other people or even embracing the reality that we were created with a specific purpose and plan.

As we allow God and others to speak ***into our lives***, we then are able to see ourselves from a different perspective and viewpoint. Encouragement and support are rooted in the gift of receiving this love from God and others.

**Hebrews 10:19-22**

In the temple system, God’s presence was kept at a distance. As Jesus’ died on the cross, his sacrifice changed the world forever. (Matthew 27:50-51a) When the veil was torn, it was a symbolic moment demonstrating that access was opened to all to be God. Through Jesus, we are invited into this beautiful loving union where two become one.

**Hebrews 10:23-25**

Our faith isn’t just private and personal. We need to receive from one another because we are called to encourage one another. Community must be a priority because life is hard and difficult. We need motivate one another because this re-fuels us to continue to persevere forward.

We start by receiving love from God and love for others. But as we are encouraged and supported, it doesn’t stop with us. As we receive, this creates a reciprocal response in how we want to love and act too. It moves beyond just inwardly receiving but flows out externally as we then love God and others (Hebrews 10:24)