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## Monday

[Heb. 10:24](#) Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another all the more as you see the day drawing near.

As a Believer you kid yourself (“deceive yourself” is probably a better term) if you think that you can be an effective, growing disciple of Jesus and skip out on regular corporate worship. God simply did not design you in that way. The disciples joined together to worship the Lord, they established the first churches and sent out their missionaries from the larger group. They ministered to one another through the church. Most importantly, they gathered to worship God as a united people of faith. Like in heaven, God desires the gathering of His people for worship.

## Tuesday

[Mark 3:14](#) And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach.

Jesus took twelve men in a small group and worked with them and then changed the world through them. There is a pattern here that should not be neglected by the modern believer. Men and women are molded by the Holy Spirit in the context of a small group in which they do missions, Bible study, and hold one another accountable. ‘Corporate worship versus small group’ is not an allowable biblical choice. The Bible sets forth the example of corporate worship and small groups. Check out the gathering of the first church – a really big worship group, then smaller groups for growth and accountability. The pattern continues today.

## Wednesday

[2Sam. 24:24](#) “No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing.”

Call it stewardship — speak of the tithe or sacrificial giving — but remember that worshipping people (if they truly worship) always take of their financial resources and bring their offerings to God. You cannot be a fully devoted follower of Jesus without giving of your income to the support to the church and God’s ministry. You will not find an excuse in “grace” for being stingy or unfaithful. Those who follow God give to God. You will not find a biblical example otherwise. Most gave far more than a tithe (10<sup>th</sup>). So don’t try arguing for less. Invest in the Kingdom.

## Thursday

[1John 4:20](#) If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother, cannot love God.

A fully devoted follower of Christ (a disciple) will make the practice and nurture biblical relationships as a priority in life. As a believer you know that the way you relate to others reflects a positive witness for Jesus and His church or it drives people away from Jesus and His church. Building biblical relationships means following biblical guidelines for resolving disputes, forgiving others, and speaking to and about others. Following biblical guidelines must include your relations with your family, your church family and its leaders, as well as those outside the church.

## Friday

[Luke 10:1](#) The Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come.”

Are you a genuine disciple? If so, you understand that you were not chosen to sit and soak up the blessing of eternal life without going forth in missions and ministry. God has put missions in your heart. He says clearly, “You will receive power... and you will be my witnesses.” (Acts 2:8) To grow in discipleship and in your relation with the Lord, you must take on the yoke of ministry/missions. Challenging? Sure, but it is the challenge that brings the growth. Just a few days now until **STREET SHOE SUNDAY!** This will be a wonderful way to step into mission and an important step in your discipleship.