

**THEME: WHO I AM IN CHRIST.**

**TOPIC: I AM TENACIOUS.**

**TEXT: HEBREWS 10:23, 3:6; 1 CORINTHIANS 10:13; PSALM 26:1**

**Introduction:**

Tenacious (adj.): The quality of being able to grip something firmly.

1. Holding firmly to something, such as a right or principle; persistent, stubborn unyielding.

**Synonym** – perseverance, doggedness, single-mindedness, strength of will, resoluteness, resolve, diligence etc.

The words in the Bible closest in meaning to tenacious; Steadfast, Purposed or Determined. So tenacity is shown in the Bible by the believers dogged determination against extreme odds.

**Holding Fast in Context (Hebrews 10:22-25)**

*Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

**1. Hold Tenaciously to the Hope – Hebrews 10:22-25**

We must hold tenaciously to the "**confession of our hope**" referring to belief in Jesus, His work so far, and His future work. There are three "let us" statements in the text

1. "Let us draw near" instead of drifting away.
2. "Let us hold fast" our confession (testimony) of faith (or hope, as in some translations), not wavering because of trials.
3. "Let us consider" other believers and, by example, encourage them to be true to Christ.

**Q:** What is it about this "hope" that we are been admonished to hold fast to it (like guard with our life)?

**2. Christian Fellowship – 1 Corinthians 13:5**

If we provoke each other at all, it should be unto love. The boldness we have in heaven ought to lead to spiritual growth and dedication on earth. It seems that these believers, because of trials neglected Christian fellowship and the mutual encouragement that believers need from each other.

**Q:** Why is it important for us as believers to continue in fellowship?

### **3. Access through Christ – 1 Peter 2:9**

Since Christ is our high priest, and we are a kingdom of priests, we can assemble together for common worship, teaching, and service. The Jew in the Old Testament times could not enter the tabernacle, and the high priest could not enter the holy of holies except once a year. . But, through Christ's sacrifice, we have access to God at any time.

**Q:** How do we take advantage of this awesome privilege?

### **4. Draw Near James 4:8**

Draw near, bears the idea of coming to God frequently, openly, intimately, and unhesitatingly, but always with a cleansed heart, true heart; hearts sprinkled with the cleansing blood and a fully formed assurance that the way to God is opened to us.

**Q:** What should our response be to the call for us to draw near in practical sense?

### **5. Why do we need to be Tenacious?**

- a. Its first of all a fight over your Christian life and walk – 1 Timothy 6:12
- b. The devil goes around like a roaring lion seeking whom to devour – 1 Peter 5:8
- c. To establish His kingdom here on earth – Matthew 6:10, 11:12
- d. To occupy until He comes – Luke 19:12-14.

### **Conclusion**

It should be noted that Satan will try to use shame and guilt to keep us away from God. But God wants us to draw near to him, realizing that shame and guilt have been taken away by our great High Priest. Christ. We have been cleansed from a guilty conscience, we hold on to the hope forgiveness brings. Indeed, we now concentrate on "*how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds*" (v. 24). With this cleansing, we are free to concentrate on living together for God.