



The Way of the Cross Leads Home:

Hang in when Others Check Out!

Hebrews 3:7-15

The Way of the Cross Leads Home when we encourage each other to remain faithful to the living God!

1. Encourage fellow believers in Jesus to remain faithful by _____!

“**Take care**”—in v. 12 is the idea of “beware or look out!” and is in the present tense (continuous action) and is the reminder to not let happen to you what happened to the people of Israel! See Hebrews 3:16-19 and see Numbers 13:26-14:42 (at Kadesh-barnea)

“**evil, unbelieving heart...**”—evil means “sick,” including an idea of disloyal while “**unbelieving**” means “**no faith**” as it relates to the future.

“**leading you to fall away...**”—this verb means to “stand off from, to step aside from” with the idea of rebellion, revolt, to renounce a claim.

*Will you encourage someone to remain faithful
by staying alert this week?*

2. Encourage fellow believers in Jesus to remain faithful by _____ them on!

“But exhort one another every day...”—

“but” is the strong word and here emphasizes the positive side of a life of faithfulness.

“exhort” is present tense and means to encourage, urge.

“one another”—reciprocity is the Christian way!

“every day” emphasizes every single day!

*Do you have a story of being encouraged?
Who has a story of you encouraging them?*

3. Encourage fellow believers in Jesus to remain faithful by _____ on their _____ and regularly _____!

“we share in Christ”—is literally “have become” (perfect tense so completed action with continuing results) “partakers” (literally means “to hold together

“if we hold our original confidence firm to the end” refers to the

necessity of maintaining the veracity of our pledged “confidence” (which is literally “that which underlies—the basis/foundation) so that it grows and develops.

How often have you reflected on your journey with Jesus and recommitted yourself to walk closer with Him?

The Way of the Cross Leads Home

written by Jessie B. Pounds.



Jessie Hunter Brown was born on August 31, 1861, in Hiram, Ohio. She is described as having been a “poorly” child in health and was educated at home. At age 15, she began submitting articles to Cleveland newspapers and various religious publications.

She married John Pounds, a pastor of the Central Christian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1906. In her early years, an editor commented that some of her poetry would

make good hymn texts. So began her song writing career. **Over her lifetime, she wrote 50 librettos for cantatas and operettas, 9 books, and more than 400 Gospel songs.** She collaborated with James Fillmore for three decades. *A memorable phrase is said to come to her, and she would write it down in her notebook. Then maybe a couple months later she would write out the entire hymn.* Many of her early efforts are found under her maiden name of Jessie H. Brown. She also wrote songs such as **I Know My Redeemer Liveth, The Touch of His Hand on Mine, There Is Rest for the Weary, Anywhere with Jesus I Can Go Safely, Wonderful Peace, Passing Through the Gate, and Ring the Bells.** She died on March 3, 1921, in Hiram, Ohio. Her husband died four years later. This hymn has been **published in almost 200 hymnals.**

- 1st **I must needs go home by the way of the cross,
There's no other way but this;
I shall ne'er get sight of the gates of light,
If the way of the cross I miss.**
- 2nd **I must needs go on in the blood sprinkled way,
The path that the Savior trod,
If I ever climb to the heights sublime,
Where the soul is at home with God.**
- 3rd **Then I bid farewell to the way of the world,
To walk in it nevermore;
For the Lord says, "Come," and I seek my home
Where He waits at the open door.**