

10-10-2018

Let Us

Anna Bennett

Southern Adventist University, annabennett@southern.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://knowledge.e.southern.edu/main>

 Part of the [Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Bennett, Anna, "Let Us" (2018). *The Main Thing Devotional*. 1.
<https://knowledge.e.southern.edu/main/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Chaplain's Office at KnowledgeExchange@Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Main Thing Devotional by an authorized administrator of KnowledgeExchange@Southern. For more information, please contact jspears@southern.edu.

“...Since we have a great priest over the house of God, 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.”

Hebrews 10:21-25 ESV

Let Us

This past Sabbath a group of friends I love and cherish gathered together around the typical Adventist staple Haystack lunch and stuck up a robust conversation around enneagram types. (If you don't have a clue as to what I'm talking about, [click here](#)). "Which type are you?" my friend asked with eager anticipation. Back and forth the question circulated around most of the group of individuals until people withdrew their smartphones and began taking the online quiz.

I'm a Type Two which is often referred to as "The Helper." Sounds prestigious doesn't it? But I immediately think two thoughts: 1) it's so humbling to be considered as someone who helps others, and 2) couldn't that easily turn into a pride thing?

According to sources, when Twos are healthy and balanced we are compassionate, gentle, caring, and generous. But when we are unhealthy, pride completely overtakes.

I struggle with pride. Do you? I struggle with accepting help from others for fear that it makes me look as though I can't do something on my own. I struggle with being vulnerable and letting people into my mess. I struggle with accepting someone's grace and forgiveness when I fall short of the high expectations I set for myself because, though I would never say it, I often pretend I'm a superwoman. The

Hebrews 10:21-25 is hard for me to swallow on some days. It's a call for me to turn outside of myself and lean into others instead of clinging to the barriers I often allow to get in the way. Let us draw near, the author says. Let us hold fast. Let us stir up one

another, meet together, encourage one another. The reality is this: we need one another. Your personality, talents, gifts, perspective, and story offer me a great gift, just I pray that I may truly be a help and a blessing to you.

Let us. This doesn't remove "me" but it may remove the thorn of pride that pricks my side. "I" am a part of this "us." I am necessary, important, and vital in the overall success of "us." And so are you. You are necessary, important, and vital to us. We should say that to one another more often. Around haystack meals, or campfires, on Sabbath mornings, or even as we pass each other on the promenade - I think each of us needs to hear how valued we are more often.

God has given us one another to cling to and to walk beside as we move along this faith journey and wait for Jesus to return. "Let us" consider all the ways we can encourage one another to keep the Main Thing, the main thing.

Challenge:

1. Think about your own personality - what are the things you are naturally gifted at that may help others, and what is more of your shadow side?
2. Who is one person you can reach out to this week to encourage and uplift?
3. "Let us" gather together in one another's homes for a unique vespers experience on November 9. Faculty, staff, and church members may sign up to be hosts by visiting www.southern.edu/homevespers (sign ups close on Oct 14). Student sign ups will be released on Oct 15.



ANNA BENNETT

Associate Chaplain

My greatest joy is listening to student's stories and teaching what it means to be in a real, intimate relationship with Jesus. I am also passionate about crafting intentional worship experiences. I hope you'll take a moment to stop by my office and share your story and your passions with me!