

SOMEBODY

“Somebody Needs a Cheering Section!”

“As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me all day long, “Where is your God?” ⁴ These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God, with shouts of joy and thanksgiving among the festive throng.”

- Psalm 42:1-4 (NIV 1984)

Do you ever feel like giving up?

I. Somebody wants to know the secret to happiness.

- A. It's not money or things; it's connectedness!
- B. There's a huge difference between connectedness and networks!
- C. The truth is it's not easy to stay connected.

II. Somebody needs to claim these scriptures.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵ Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

- Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV 1984)

(See also Hebrews 12:1-3)

Conclusion: The only way to “keep on” in this life and to experience the best that God has for you is by being connected to those He's put in your path.

Somebody Series / week 2

Pastor Jay Passavant

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Recommended Reading:

Eugene H. Peterson, *Leap Over a Wall—Earthly Spirituality for Everyday Christians*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1997.

Tremper Longman, *How to Read the Psalms*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1988.

Small Group Questions

1. Share with your group at least one area where you currently feel like “giving up.”
2. If you could be really honest, what's the most difficult part about being connected with others in your life?
3. Has there been a time when you felt disconnected from God? (see Psalm 42)
4. Have you been tempted to give up on being connected? Do you need the encouragement of Hebrews 10:24-25 as we prepare for a new season of life together? What are your plans?
5. Jesus went to the cross so that our sin would be forgiven and that we would have a “cheering section” to see us through life. How real is that spiritual truth to you in your day-to-day life?