

Encouraging One Another
Selected Scriptures, 2017-12-31B, #2

Introduction: One of our goals for 2018 is to practice the one another commands. This morning we focused on the meanings, motives, and one of the methods of encouraging one another. Tonight we will continue to examine methods or how to encourage one another. This morning we saw that one of the methods of encouraging one another is with words...

I. Prayer:

- A. Paul encouraged others with his prayers (Romans 1:8-9).**
- B. Paul encouraged others by informing them that he was praying for them (Romans 1:8-9; 1 Corinthians 1:4; Ephesians 1:15-23; Philippians 1:3-11; Colossians 1:3-14; 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3; 2:13; 2 Thessalonians 1:3, 11).**
- C. We can all encourage others by praying for them as we are commanded to do in Ephesians 6:18; James 5:16.**
 - 1. One of the meanings of encourage is to put courage into.**
 - 2. Billy Kim, the Korean pastor and evangelist, gives an illustration of how prayer can put courage into others. He said that during the Korean War at a place called Heartbreak Ridge. "On one side of the ridge there were communist soldiers in a foxhole, and on the other side of the ridge were American soldiers in a foxhole. Fifty yards from the American foxhole an American soldier was hit by an enemy bullet in his left shoulder. From the American foxhole the cry for help was heard, but no one dared to face the enemies' bullets. The wounded soldier was losing blood. One young soldier continued looking at his watch. At 9 AM, without saying a word, he crawled fifty yards into the enemies' territory and rescued the wounded soldier back to the American foxhole. After first aid was given, the commanding officer asked him, 'Why did you wait until 9 o'clock'? The young soldier replied, 'When I left home, my mother promised that she would pray for me every day at 9 AM. I was confident I would be safe from the enemies' bullets if I went at 9 AM.'"**
- D. We can encourage others by praying for them, and by informing them that we are praying for them. We can pray on the phone when we cannot be present personally.**

II. Presence:

- A. Paul encouraged others with his presence (Romans 1:10-12; Acts 19:21).**
- B. Sometimes the most encouraging thing that we can do is just be present.**
- C. Job's three friends encouraged him by their presence for seven days and seven nights (Job 2:11-13)...**
- D. We are commanded not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Hebrews 10:24-25).**
- E. On one occasion Paul was encouraged by the presence of Titus (2 Corinthians 7:6).**
- F. When it is not possible to be present, we can write a letter, send a card, text, email, or make a phone call...**

III. Provisions:

- A. Paul encouraged others by collecting finances for the churches that were in need (Acts 11:29-30; 1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8 & 9; Romans 15:23-28).**
- B. Paul was also encouraged by receiving gifts from the church at Philippi (Philippians 4:10-19).**
- C. We can all encourage others by meeting their material needs.**
- D. When Elijah was discouraged, God first met his physical needs (1 Kings 19:1-8).**
- E. In the early church there was a man named “Joseph.”**
 - 1. “Joseph” was given the nickname “Barnabas,” which means “Son of Encouragement” (Acts 4:36).**
 - 2. One of the ways Joseph or Barnabas encouraged others was by meeting their material needs with his possessions (Acts 4:34-37).**

IV. Participation:

- A. In Philippians 1:5, “fellowship” in the King James Version translates the Greek noun *koinōnia* (κοινωνία), which is translated “participation” by the New American Standard Bible.**
- B. Paul was thankful to God for the participation of the church at Philippi in the spreading of the gospel.**
- C. It is very encouraging to a pastor and to the leaders of a church for the members to participate in the ministries of the church.**
 - 1. Gifted leaders are given to the church to equip the saints for the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:11-12).**
 - 2. Spiritual gifts are given for the edifying or building up of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:7; 14:26; Ephesians 4:12-16).**
 - 3. Everyone has at least one spiritual gift given at the moment of spiritual birth (1 Peter 4:10).**
 - 4. Talents are gifts which are given at our natural birth.**
 - 5. The spiritual gifts are listed in Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4; and 1 Peter 4.**
- D. Max Lucador said: “No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.”**

V. Proclamation:

- A. Paul encouraged with the preaching of the gospel (Romans 1:15-16).**
- B. Paul encouraged with words.**
 - 1. Some of Paul’s encouraging words to the Romans: Romans 3:23, 24; 5:1, 8; 8:1, 11, 18, 26, 28-31, 38-39; 10:1-4, 9-10; 11:33; 12:19.**
 - 2. Assignment: Observe some of the things that the book of Proverbs has to say about words, speech, lips, mouth, and the tongue. For example, Proverbs 15:1; 18:21; 25:11).**

VI. Promises of God (Romans 12:19).

- A. Paul encouraged with the promises of God (Romans 8:28, 31, 38, 39; 10:9-10; 12:19).**
- B. Paul is still encouraging today with the promises of God (1 Corinthians 10:13; Galatians 5:16; 6:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 3:20; Philippians 1:6; 4:6-7, 13, 19; Colossians 1:13-14; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; 5:9-11, 23-24).**
- C. The Bible is filled with encouraging promises (Psalm 30:5; 34:19; Proverbs 3:5-6; Ecclesiastes 11:1; Isaiah 26:3; 40:31; 43:1-2; Hebrews 13:5; 1 John 3:2).**

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