

Topic: Encourage One Another**Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:18, 5:9-11****Aim:** To remind believers in Christ, the need to encourage one another in our christian life.

Introduction: The dictionary defines the word ‘encourage’ to mean giving someone support, confidence or hope. The bible presents encouraging one another as a necessity for the christian life. Without encouragement, we could be lacking in love and faithfulness, fall into sin, become hardened, be deceived, live in unbelief, and lose closeness with God (Hebrew 3: 12-13; 10:25). Encouragement is vital to christian growth and maturity. As believers in a world filled with struggle, sin, suffering, pain, fear, anxiety and misery, we can bring the hope-filled voice of encouragement to one another.

Discussion Questions:

1. From the following Scriptures, what do you understand by “encourage one another”? Isaiah 35:3-4; Galatians 6:2; Philippians 2:4
2. In practical terms, how can we encourage one another? Exodus 17:12; 1 Samuel 23:16 – 17; Luke 3:10 -11; Matt. 25:35 – 36.
3. Why do we need to encourage one another? 2 Chronicles 32:6-8; Exodus 17:12-13; Hebrews 10: 24-25; Matt. 25:40
4. Discuss the benefits of encouraging one another as a church?

Conclusion:

To encourage one another means actively building up, strengthening, and inspiring fellow believers through words and actions that point them towards God’s truth and grace. It’s about imparting courage, comfort, hope, and fostering spiritual growth and perseverance. Believers are to help one another develop Christ-like character and grow in our relationship with Him. We encourage one another by intentionally participating in church activities, praying together, mentoring younger believers, regularly following up on one another, giving, rendering good service, living exemplary life, etc. Remember, the purpose of encouraging one another is not for self-aggrandizement but to grow in Christ, which means holding one another accountable as we see the day of the Lord approaching. However, you cannot encourage others to move forward with Jesus if you are not making steady spiritual progress in your own life. Therefore, be encouraged! Then encourage one another.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:24 – “Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds”. (NLT)