



Midweek

Midweek Sermon

Pastor JD Small

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“Praising others does not come easily to human nature; we like to receive praise, but not to give it. Criticizing comes much easier because we feel more comfortable looking down on people. Praising involves looking up in admiration, and our necks and egos tend to creak and ache when we attempt it. Affirmation is also discouraged by powerful societal trends: cynicism, distrust, suspicion, negativity, envy, political strife, and bad news at home and abroad, all combine to chill our hearts and shrink our souls.” — David Murray

Dis-Couraged — having lost confidence or enthusiasm; disheartened.

Hebrews 10:23-25

“23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

- Hold on to the hope we profess, Jesus
- Remember that God is Faithful
- Consider how we can push each other to do the good things that Jesus has called and equipped us to do
- Don't give up gathering together with other believers
- Encourage one another

Hebrews 10:25

“25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

“The final exhortation of this passage calls this community of Christ-followers to a life of mutual encouragement. Christians have a high calling to care for one another and stimulate one another spiritually and morally. The word translated “let us consider” (*katanoeo*), the main verb around which verses 24-25 revolve, occurs just fourteen times in the New Testament; it means to “notice, consider, pay attention to, look closely at.” [19] Believers are to rivet their attention on the need for conscious activities of encouragement among those in the Christian community.”

Encourage — to give support, confidence, or hope to someone

Parakaleo —

1. to call to one's side, call for, summon
2. to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, etc.

- a. to admonish, exhort
 - b. to beg, entreat, beseech
 - i. to strive to appease by entreaty
3. to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation, to comfort
- a. to receive consolation, be comforted

"In the New Testament, the word most often translated as "encouragement" is parakalein. This term comes from two Greek words: para, meaning "alongside of," and kaleo, meaning "to call." When people come alongside us during difficult times to give us renewed courage, a renewed spirit, renewed hope—that's encouragement." — William Barclay

1. Encouragement is wired within our _____ to give it and receive it

Encouragement flows out of the Trinity

1. The Father

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

"3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

2. Jesus

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

"6 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, 17 encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word."

3. Holy Spirit

John 14:26

"26 But the Advocate (the Comforter), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

2. Just _____ It

1. Proverbs 18:21

"21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

2. Ephesians 4:29

"29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

3. Colossians 4:6

"6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

4. Hebrews 3:12-13

"12 See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."

5. **Romans 15:4**

"4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope."

3. _____

1. **With Others**

a. *"Whatever the reason, the author sees their discontinuance of common fellowship and worship as fatal for perseverance in the faith. Encouragement cannot take place in isolation. Thus, what they must do is gather for mutual encouragement (cf. 3:13)."*

b. *Acts 2:42-47*

"42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

2. **With Jesus**

a. **Only the one who created your soul can speak to the depths of it and impart life and hope.**

3. **Ten Commandments order:**

a. **The first 3 are about the Holiness of God**

b. **The 4th is about the Sabbath — it's about us connecting and refreshing**

c. **The last 6 are about our relationship with and towards others around us.**

4. **Gathering with Jesus regularly allows him to put courage within you to face the things that are going on around you.**

4. You cannot be encouraged unless you are willing to come _____

ANSWERS:

1. DNA

2. SAY

3. GATHER

4. ALONGSIDE