



"Pleasing God with Our Speech"

ITHESSALONIANS 4:18

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 3:12-13

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Proverbs 18:21

Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.

A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

KEY POINT:

We please God by using our words for good.

1. What is encouragement?

2. When should we encourage?

3. Why does Paul teach encouragement in Thessalonians?

4. How can we be more encouraging?

1. What is encouragement?

- a. From Greek parakaleo
- b. Meaning "to call, to summon" (Matt 8:5), "to admonish, to exhort" (Luke 3:18), "to encourage, to cheer, to comfort" (Matt 5:4; II Cor 1:4, 6)
- c. "a courage transfusion" (Charles Swindoll)

David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh. ¹⁶ And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God.

I Samuel 23:15-16

"The best kind of encouragement is when the person doing the encouraging genuinely loves the other individual and expresses it. That's our friend Jonathan. In such situations the person needing encouragement honestly admits his fear, which causes a meaningful connection between the two. In that situation, soul meets with soul."



Charles Swindoll Growing Deep in the Christian Life 1. What is encouragement?

2. When should we encourage?

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ 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 10:24-25

1. What is encouragement?

2. When should we encourage?

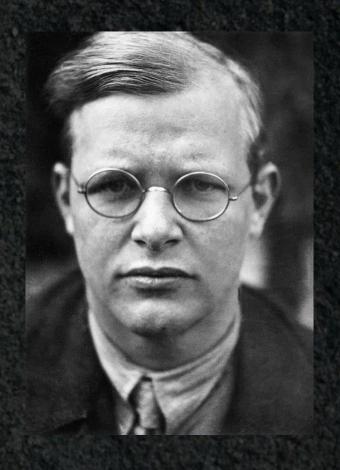
3. Why does Paul teach encouragement to the Thessalonians?

- 1. Events of vs. 13-17
- 2. Their certainty
- 3. The expectation of reunion
- 4. The irreversibility of these events
- 5. The eternal prospect

What Should Comfort the Thessalonians?

- 1. What is encouragement?
- 2. When should we encourage?
- 3. Why does Paul teach encouragement to the Thessalonians?
- 4. How can we be more encouraging?
 - a. Learn to talk less (Jas 1:19).

"Just as love to God begins with listening to his Word, so the beginning of love for the brethren is learning to listen to them."



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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- 3. Why does Paul teach encouragement in Thessalonians?
- 4. How can we be more encouraging?
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 - b. Think before you speak (Jas 1:19; Prov 13:3).

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 - e. Develop the habit of encouragement (I Thess 4:17; 5:18).

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 - f. Be specific in your encouragement.

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 - e. Develop the habit of encouragement.
 - f. Be specific in your encouragement.
 - g. Copy the example of Barnabas (Acts 4:32-37; 9:22-27; 11:19-24).

that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,

Colossians 2:2