

The Power of Encouragement

August 20, 2023

1 Thessalonians 3:2, *“We sent Timothy to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:11, *“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”*

Strengthen: to cause to be inwardly firm or committed, to establish, to support.

Encourage: to walk alongside of, to comfort, to help, to instill someone with courage, to cheer up, to pray for, or to persuade with the word of God.

Build: to help improve ability to function in living responsibly and effectively, to strengthen, to build up, to make more able. to develop another person’s life through acts and words of love and encouragement.

Hebrews 3:12-13, *“Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”*

Hebrews 10:24-25, *“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of Christ’s return is drawing near.”*

Acts 4:34-37, *“There was not a needy person among them (the church), for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales ³⁵ and lay them at the apostles’ feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need. ³⁶ Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles’ feet.”*

Acts 11:23-24, *“When Barnabas arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; ²⁴ Barnabas was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.”*

Acts 9:26-27, *“When Saul came to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took hold of Saul and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that the Christ had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.”*

Acts 13:13, *“Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem.”*

Acts 15:36-39, *“Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brethren...” ³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take John, called Mark, along with them also. ³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ And there occurred such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him.”*