Encouraging One Another

Gary Barkalow

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

Heb. 3:12-13

Deceitfulness - Keeping the truth hidden

The truth about who God is

The truth about what God has done for you and in you through Christ

The truth about God's thought toward you.

The truth about who you are and your purpose

Deceitfulness - Intentionally manipulating how someone sees a situation

The world, our flesh and Satan are always offering a misinterpretation of a person's words, countenance, actions, circumstances and situations.

We harden our heart toward that person, group, situation, or God

Consider how you may spur others on toward love and good deeds, 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.

Heb. 10:24-25

What has God deposited in him that needs to be affirmed

- What have you observed or experienced about what they uniquely brings?
- What might be their God-given genius, artistry, gifting?
- Is there something that you think they are holding back or muting?
- Who do you see them becoming?

What has God spoken to him that needs to be confirmed?

- What have they shared that you need to repeat, bear witness to?

What has he experienced for which he need comfort?

- What do you sense they are afraid of?
- How have they been wounded and how has it affected them?
- Speak understanding, compassion, assurance of God's goodness for their life

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

2 Thess. 2:16, 17

Encouragement is relational, it's up close.

We must experience encouragement from God to offer it to others.

It's heart to heart resuscitation.

I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness. (Jer. 31:3)

I will never desert you, nor will I ever abandon you. (Heb. 13:5)

I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. (John 15:15)

[You] are God's masterpiece. [I] have created [you] anew in Christ Jesus, so [you] can do the good things he planned for [you] long ago. (Eph., 2:10)

'I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the LORD, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.' (Jeremiah 29:11)

[I], who began the good work within you, will continue [my] work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. (Phil 1:6)

I will work all things together for your good, for I have a purpose for you (Rom. 8:28)

Considered words, informed words

Sincere words

Words with a sense of inspiration / origination from God

Words spoken from the heart to the heart

Alone/time with God: 30 minutes to think, pray, write about each man in your group:

- How have I experienced this man?
- What has God deposited in him that needs to be affirmed?
- What has God spoken to them that needs to be confirmed?
- What have they experienced for which they need comfort?

Small Group: 30 minutes - 10 minutes per man

Pray over the man (listening prayer), asking God to give you insight and words for him.

A moment of listening.

A moment of speaking.

Record on your phone