

Encouragement another tool in our belt

1 Samuel 30 And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

2 And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way.

3 So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. 4 Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

5 And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

6 And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: **but David encouraged himself in the Lord his God.**

7 And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David.

8 And David enquired at the Lord, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

David is living with his mighty men and they are living in the area of Philistine area. The area that the king of the philistines Achish gave David called ziklag= winding.

David and his men were out. Town of ziklag was not protected.

You come home and all is lost. The devastation is overwhelming.

The warriors are weeping and they do not have the power to even weep.

David is not spared in the taking away of his wives David was greatly distressed.

His mighty man was speaking of stoning him because they were so grieved that every man lost his son and daughters.

But David encouraged himself in the Lord his God. The tool of encouragement was able to help David in one of his greatest times of need!

Because of his encouragement in the Lord his God he asked for the ephod.

Abiathar the priest Brings the ephod and David inquires of the Lord.

Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

False encouragement

2 Kings 21:8-10 And I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers, if only they will take care to act in accordance with everything that I have commanded them, and with all the Law that My servant Moses commanded them.” 9 But they did not listen, and Manasseh encouraged them to do evil, more than the nations whom the Lord eliminated from the presence of the sons of Israel.

The word encouraged can be translated seduced = mentally and morally: *cause to err, mislead*: absolute. Our words can encourage to build up or we can seduce others to do evil. As James 3:6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

Isaiah 41:6-7

6 Each one helps his neighbor And says to his brother, “Be strong!”

7 So the craftsman encourages the smelter,

And he who smooths *metal* with the hammer *encourages* him who beats the anvil, Saying of the soldering, “It is good”;

And he fastens it with nails, *So that* it will not totter.,

So as we can encourage ourselves in the Lord. There is the opposite or the darkness and we can encourage in idolatry in devil worship. The devil looks to recreate everything to show us false goodness. Only the good worship of the Lord will last forever. Good is what God the Lord has considered good.

Ezekiel 13:21-23 I will also tear off your veils and save My people from your hands, and they will no longer be in your hands as prey; and you will know that I am the Lord. 22 Because you disheartened the righteous with falsehood when I did not cause him pain, **but you have [a]encouraged the wicked not to turn from his wicked way to keep him alive,** 23 therefore you women will no longer see deceitful visions or practice divination, and I will save My people from your hands. So you will know that I am the Lord.”

There are those who will do everything in their power to encourage the wicked not to turn from their wicked ways. We have them in government we had them in leadership we even have them in the church. Holy encouragement tells us to walk away from sin.

Good Godly Encouragement

Command to do

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

Paul gives us a command to do as he gave to the church at Thessalonica Encourage one another by building them up. Do your words build up?

Next Generation

Deuteronomy 3:27-28 Go up to the top of Pisgah and raise your eyes to the west, the north, the south, and the east, and see *it* with your eyes; for you shall not cross over this Jordan. 28 But commission Joshua and encourage him and strengthen him, for he shall go across leading this people, and he will give to them, as an inheritance, the land which you will see.'

In verse 26 it says but the Lord was angry with me on your account would not listen to me Lord said to me enough! Speak to me no more on this matter. So Moses sees the promised land from the West the north the South the east and he sees it but he doesn't go over into. He was told the Commission Joshua encourage Joshua and strengthen Joshua.

Commission-Charge him to do a job Ordain appoint

Encourage- *make strong = bold, encourage,*

Strengthen - *make firm, strengthen,*

Future leaders and others whatever job they will take over that we need to build people up and not tear them down.

Mentoring

Titus 2:4 o that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,

Older women in the faith are called upon to mentor or disciple the younger women to love their husband to love their children. Older women in the faith are called not gossip not be given to wine but to teach what is good.

When someone is in distress

1 Samuel 23:15-17 Now David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life while David was in the wilderness of Ziph, at Horesh. **16 And Jonathan, Saul's son, set out and went to David at Horesh, and [a]encouraged him in God.** 17 He said to him, "Do not be afraid, because the hand of Saul my father will not find you, and you will be king over Israel, and I will be second in command to you; and Saul my father knows that as well."

Encouragement can come from a friend. David is pursued by king Saul. This is a low part in his life. Jonathan King's Saul son comes and encourages David. He talks of a future he tells him not to be afraid. Jonathan says that he will be 2nd in command under David as king. Why these words never came to pass they are prophetic from the mouth of Jonathan he encouraged him in his God. Not in his vision but in his God. True comfort true consolation comes from the God of all comfort.

When someone is Fainthearted

1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brothers *and sisters*, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

Encouragement works well for the fainthearted.

Fainthearted = little-spirited fretful, worried

Paul encourages others when he is in pain

Acts 16:40 They left the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia, and when they saw the brothers *and sisters*, they encouraged *them* and departed.

Paul and Silas have just been released from prison they go to the House of Lydia. They saw the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. The word of God teaches us to encourage one another.

To speak to the brethren like Barnabas

Acts 11:23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and *began* to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain *true* to the Lord;

What an amazing verse of scripture. The church in Antioch Here Barnabas is encouraging them All of them. With resolute heart to remain true to the Lord. The very name of who he is. He is now encouraging the church with words that build up and not tear down.

When we leave encourage

Acts 20:1,2 After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and when he had encouraged them and taken his leave of them, he left to go to Macedonia.²When he had gone through those regions and had given them much encouragement, he came to Greece.

Sometimes the word translated encourage means also to exhort. Paul encouraged the disciples before leaving. Words of encouragement when leaving are good words and a good habit to fashion in one's life.

Encourage the unbelievers

Acts 27:34,36

Therefore, I encourage you to take some food, for this is for your survival, for not a hair from the head of any of you will perish.”³⁶All of them were encouraged and they themselves also took food.

Paul in the midst of the shipwreck before the ship broke up encouraged the crew to eat. He said not a hair of their head would perish. All of them were encouraged and they took the food. We can speak words of encouragement to those who do not know the Lord. We do not bless them but we encourage them to look to Jesus.

Encourage by your faith

Romans 1:12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you *while* among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine.

We can encourage one another by our faith. This is what Paul is explaining to the Romans and his desire to see them.

Through scripture

Romans 15:4,5 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another, according to Christ Jesus,

Scripture encourages us to have hope. God gives us perseverance and encouragement.

In Christ!!!!

Philippians 2:1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,

Encouragement in Christ- 3874 Parakiesis= The entire scripture is actually a paraklesis An exhortation or admonition or encouragement for the purpose of strengthening and establishing the believers possession of redemption.

Encouragement done right in Christ strengthens and establishes the believer.

Encouragement comforts Colossians 2:2

Encouragement strengthens others Colossians 4:11

Encouragement is a benefit of your faith

1 Thessalonians 3:1,2 Therefore, when we could no longer endure *it*, we thought it best to be left behind, alone at Athens, 2 and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you for the benefit of your faith,

Encouragement is the apple of the day against sin

Hebrews 3:13 But encourage one another every day, as long as it is *still* called "today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Encouragement is a gift we all can use every day. The admonition is to encourage one another every day this is like the apple which keeps the doctor away. But in this verse so that none of us will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Closing Verses

Hebrews 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to hold firmly to the hope set before us.

The 2 immutable things Which are God's *promise* and God's *oath*. We take refuge in his promises and oath we have strong encouragement to hold firmly to the hope set before us. One of the two immutable things that never will change God's promises and God's oath in which he swears by.

Hebrews 10:24 and let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds,

Here are two ways we can encourage one another in the faith.

- 1. We encourage in love**
- 2. We encourage in good deeds**