

Life Together And Encouragement



¹ After the uproar ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and after encouraging them, he said farewell and departed for Macedonia.² When he had gone through those regions and had given them much encouragement, he came to Greece.³ There he spent three months, and when a plot was made against him by the Jews as he was about to set sail for Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia.

⁴ Sopater the Berean, son of Pyrrhus, accompanied him; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy; and the Asians, Tychicus and Trophimus. ⁵ These went on ahead and were waiting for us at Troas, ⁶ but we sailed away from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and in five days we came to them at Troas, where we stayed for seven days.

⁷ On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight.⁸ There were many lamps in the upper room where we were gathered. ⁹ And a young man named Eutychus, sitting at the window, sank into a deep sleep as Paul talked still longer. And being overcome by sleep,

he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead. ¹⁰ But Paul went down and bent over him, and taking him in his arms, said, "Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him." ¹¹ And when Paul had gone up and had broken bread and eaten, he conversed with them a long while, until daybreak, and so departed. ¹² And they took the youth away alive, and were not a little comforted.

Paul's Ministry Of Encouragement vs 1-2

¹ After the uproar ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and after encouraging them, he said farewell and departed for Macedonia. ² When he had gone through those regions and had given them much encouragement, he came to Greece.

Acts 14:21-22

²¹ When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, **they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch**, ²² **strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith**, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

Acts 15:36

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "**Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are**."

Acts 18:23

²³ After spending some time in Antioch, he departed and went from one place to the next through the region of Galatia and Phrygia, **strengthening all the disciples**. The Christian needs another Christian who speaks God's word to him. He needs him again and again when he becomes **discouraged**. He needs his brother or sister as a bearer and proclaimer of the divine word of salvation. He needs his brother or sister solely because of Jesus Christ. The Christ in his own heart is weaker than the Christ in the word of his brother; his own heart is uncertain, his brothers is sure.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer - 'Life Together'.

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Paul's Travelling Companions vs 4

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Some Unplanned Encouragement At Troas vs 7-12

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'What builds up the church more than anything else is the ministry of God's word as it comes to us through Scripture and Sacrament (that is the right coupling), audibly and visibly, in declaration and drama.'

- J. Stott

"There will not be any great reformation in our churches or our personal lives if such a hunger is absent. If we are content to hear one sermon a week lasting twenty minutes, then we are displaying a condition of spiritual sickness. Unless we cultivate an appetite for the exposition of scripture, we will never grow as Christians. Instead of being among those who are always wanting less exposition, we should be among those always desiring more."

- Derek Thomas