

The One Another Life – A Gospel Community

Week 2 – Encourage One Another
(Hebrews 3:12-13)

OPENING QUESTION

What is one of the most loving things **you can do for another Christian?**

KEY VERSE

*“But encourage each other daily, while it is still called today,
so that none of you is hardened by sin’s deception.”
-Hebrews 3:13*

A NEW COMMAND

1. We must take the **danger of unbelief seriously.** (Hebrews 3:12)

“Watch out, brothers and sisters, so that there won’t be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.”

God’s warnings are one of the means **He uses to preserve His people.** Hebrews does not teach that a genuinely saved person can become unsaved. Jesus keeps His people secure (John 10:28). Nothing can separate believers from God’s love in Christ (Romans 8:29-39). 1 John 2:19 shows that final abandonment reveals that a profession of faith was never genuine to start with.

What is true: The danger of unbelief is real, and believers must take the condition of the heart seriously.

What to do: Guard your heart. Ask: Am I trusting God? Am I resisting Him anywhere? Am I listening when He speaks in His Word? Am I drifting while convincing myself that everything is fine?

2. We must recognize that **sin deceives and hardens.** (Hebrews 3:13b)

“...so that none of you is hardened by sin’s deception.”

Sin says things like: **“This is not that serious.”** “You can repent later.” “You deserve this.” “Nobody will know.” “You can control it.”

What is true: Sin is deceptive, and repeatedly believing its lies can gradually harden the heart against God.

What to do: Do not make peace with sin’s lies. Bring sin into the light. Expose its lies with Scripture. Repent early. Do not wait for a sinful pattern to become a stronghold.

3. God uses believers to **help one another remain faithful.** (Heb. 3:13a)

“But encourage each other daily, while it is still called today...”

Biblical encouragement can include hope, reassurance, biblical truth, warning, exhortation, and loving correction.

What is true: God uses the regular encouragement of other believers as one of His means of protecting His people from the deceitfulness and hardening power of sin.

What to do: Regularly speak biblical truth, hope, and warning into the lives of fellow believers so that you help them remain faithful to Christ. Ask yourself: Did I just say something nice—or did I help someone keep believing Christ?

THE MAIN IDEA

Main Idea: Because sin hardens the heart and unbelief draws us away from God, we must encourage one another to remain faithful to Him.

LOOK TO CHRIST

Hebrews 3 begins by saying, “**Consider Jesus,**” because the answer to unbelief, weariness, and spiritual drift is not merely greater effort on our part—it is fixing our attention again on the One who is faithful. Israel failed in unbelief, and Moses stood at the center of Israel’s history as the great leader through whom God gave the law and led His people out of Egypt. He was deeply honored and rightly regarded as a faithful servant of God. **But the writer of Hebrews says Jesus is greater. Moses was a servant in God’s house; Jesus is the Son over God’s house.** The point is not to diminish Moses, but to show Christ's surpassing greatness. Jesus is the One who saves His people, keeps His people, and is worthy of their continued trust. That is why one of the most loving things we can do for another believer is to keep directing them back to Christ: when they are discouraged, remind them of His faithfulness; when sin is deceiving them, remind them of His truth; when they are weary, remind them of His promises; and when they are tempted to turn away, urge them to keep holding firmly to Him. **Christian encouragement is loving because it helps another believer keep their eyes on the Savior who is able to keep them.**

APPLICATION

1. Who around me **may be drifting**? Do I notice when someone is discouraged, distant, spiritually cold, or beginning to justify sin?
2. Do I have Christian relationships mature enough for **someone to warn me**? Am I willing to receive loving correction when I need it?
3. What kind of encouragement **do I give**? Do my words actually help other believers keep trusting, obeying, and following Christ?
4. Who needs me to **encourage them today**? Is there someone I need to call, visit, encourage, warn, or lovingly confront to remain faithful to Christ’s Word? *“And we exhort you, brothers and sisters: warn those who are idle, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient with everyone.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:14) All Christians are to **warn ... comfort ... help and be patient.**