

May 27, 2018

**BUILDING SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIPS - Part 2**

## **“Encouragement”**

**Everyone, and every relationship, needs encouraging.**

**Hebrews 3:13 (NIV):** “But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”

**And there’s nothing the devil loves more than to get us doubting ourselves and God’s work in our lives.**

**“encourage” – to give courage**

**God created us for relationships, and one of the gifts of relationships is the ability to give courage to others as they face challenges in their lives.**

**Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV):** “<sup>24</sup>And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. <sup>25</sup>Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

**The Bible is calling us to make the most of these opportunities, because none of us is promised tomorrow, so “encourage one another” *today*!**

**Encouragement, giving courage to another, helps them overcome “sin’s deceitfulness” in their lives.**

**Jesus:** ““For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”” (John 3:16 NIV)

**Jesus:** ““...be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”” (Matthew 28:20 NLT)

**1 John 4:4 (ESV):** “...he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”

**The LORD:** ““no weapon forged against you will prevail...”” (Isaiah 54:17 NIV)

**Romans 8:31 (NLT):** “...If God is for us, who can ever be against us?”

**Disciples of Jesus Christ are called to share his love and encouragement with those around us.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:9-11 (NLT):** “<sup>9</sup>For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. <sup>10</sup>Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead

or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. <sup>11</sup>So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.”

**People are drawn to those who believe in them.**

**Giving Encouragement:**

- 1. Encouragement needs to be real.**
- 2. Encouragement needs to be regular.**
- 3. Encouragement needs to be specific.**

**“Catch people doing something right and then tell them.” – Ken Blanchard**  
(author of *The One Minute Manager*)

**What’s a specific commitment I can make this morning to be generous with encouragement?**

**Colossians 3:17 (NLT):** “And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus...”

**Want to go deeper? – Check out “Building Successful Relationships” by Michael and Laura Fletcher on RightNow Media ([www.gateway-community.org/find-it/](http://www.gateway-community.org/find-it/)).**

Get the *Life Journal* Bible Reading Plan at [gateway-community.org/Find-it](http://gateway-community.org/Find-it)

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