

One Another: The Fuel that Keeps Us Going

Growth Group Discussion

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Opening Questions (get everyone involved in discussion):

- How does encouragement maintain the health of the church?
- Pray for the discussion. Ask that the discussion would be fruitful and encouraging.

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

- The unknown can make you scared/concerned/excited. Are there things that make you scared/concerned/excited when thinking about the coming of Christ?
- In verses 1-3 Paul explains the coming of Jesus with two images: a thief in the night and labor pains.
 - Why do these description matter
- In what ways are “we the children of the light.”
 - Reflect on your former life without Christ. How does your life or decisions different from when you were not in the “light”
- Look at verse 8
 - Why are faith and love our breastplate.
 - How does salvation give us hope?
 - How is the “hope of salvation” unique amongst other religions?
 - Note to Leader - The Resurrection of a physical body and the New Heavens and Earth are unique to Christianity. Many religions posit either a disembodied existence as a soul or reincarnation into a physical being.
 - Why is this critical in our understanding of the future and living in the present.
- **Pastor Erik mentioned that Encouragement is the Fuel that Keeps us Going.**
 - Paul exhorts his church to be people who encourage one another and build each other up.
 - By encouragement, Paul has in mind more than saying a nice word, although kind words are biblical, great and the Lord uses them. The idea that Paul has is coming alongside someone.
 - Do you have an example of someone in your life who came alongside you and helped shape who you are today?
 - Is there someone that you could come along side an encourage?
 - Is there anything preventing you from doing this?
 - As you reflect on this passage as a whole: What does this passage demand of you? Where do you see the Holy Spirit helping you apply this to your life?
 - How does this passage change the way you pray?
 - How does this passage affect the way you relate to other believers?

Prayer and Application

- Where are you today? Is your tank on E or is it being filled? What encouragement do you need in this season. How can this group or someone “come alongside” and help give you the fuel to keep going.
- Pray for various needs.