

Encounter Church
Sunday November 09, 2025

Together We Build
Destroying Discouragement

ALL OF US ARE WALL-BUILDERS! WALLS SPEAK OF SOMETHING!

Walls speak of protection! They speak of separation! You need some walls in your life!

Walls to protect your family, to protect your faith, to protect your future. You and I need walls of Bible doctrine. Walls around our finances. Walls of prayer!

WE ARE ALL BUILDING A LIFE!

Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)- “And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”

Paul is saying that once you come to know Jesus Christ, you need to continue to build your life on him. It's not just a one-time experience!

Now when you rise up to build, the devil will try and stop you, and the way he tries to stop you is with discouragement!

Satan is the sinister minister of discouragement!

When God's people have a mind to work, Satan has a mind to wreck!

AND SATAN TRIES TO STOP US WITH DISCOURAGEMENT!

All discouragement is from Satan or self! It is never of God!

2 Corinthians 1:3 (NLT)- “All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort.”

Comfort (*paraklesis*)- comfort, consolation, exhortation, encouragement!

God is a God of encouragement, not discouragement!

Joshua 1:9- “This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

God is all about encouragement and Satan is about discouragement!

Nehemiah 4:10- “Then the people of Judah began to complain, “The workers are getting tired, and there is so much rubble to be moved. We will never be able to build the wall by ourselves.”

“There’s an old fable that says that, one day, the devil was auctioning off his tools, but there was one tool marked, “not for sale.” He was auctioning off fear, and, he was auctioning off hatred, and pride, and envy, and lust; but there was a strange looking tool there that was well worn. And somebody said, “Why is that not for sale?” He said, “I can’t afford to sale that one. That’s my most valuable tool. That’s discouragement!” He said, “It’s so worn, because I use it often to slip in. And when I pry a man’s heart open with discouragement, then I can do almost anything I want to do.”

Discouragement has always been one of Satan’s chief tools!

We get discouraged when we’re fatigued. When we’re frustrated. When there’s fear and when there’s failure.

We get discouraged when someone tells you, “You can’t do that.”

WHAT IS THE CURE FOR DISCOURAGEMENT?

1. Renew Your Strength

If you’re discouraged you may need to just rest!

1 Kings 19:3,4 (NLT)- “Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. Then he went on alone into the wilderness, traveling all day. He sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, Lord,” he said. “Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors who have already died.”

Apparently Elijah thought he was better than his ancestors but now he’s so discouraged that he prayed that he might die!

1 Kings 19:5-8 (NLT)-“Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel touched him and told him, “Get up and eat!” He looked around and there beside his head was some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So he ate and drank and lay down again. Then the angel of the Lord came again and touched him and said, “Get up and eat some more, or the journey ahead will be too much for you.” So he got up and ate and drank, and the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. 9There he came to a cave, where he spent the night.”

Now aren’t you glad God doesn’t answer all our prayers. Elijah didn’t die but he ate, laid down to sleep and then ate again!

Psalm 127:2 (NLT)- “It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to his loved ones.”

A French philosopher once said, “I have so much to do today, I simply must go to bed.”

Isaiah 40:31 (NLT)- “But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”

Am I not resting because I'm not trusting?

Destroy discouragement when you Renew Your Strength!

2. Refocus Your Thoughts

Our enemy wants to distract us with discouragement!

Nehemiah 4:14 (NLT)-“Don’t be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!”

Not only do we need to *Renew our strength*, but also need to *Refocus our Thoughts!*

I want to challenge you to spend some time alone. Remind your self of your purpose. Write it down.

Remind yourself of the promises of God. Write those things down. Remind yourself that nothing is impossible with God! Write it down!

Remind yourself of where God has brought you from! Write it down.

Philippians 4:8 (NLT)- “And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.”

Destroy discouragement when you Renew Your Mind and Refocus Your Thoughts!

3. Revive Your Spirit

Nehemiah 4:14 (NLT)-“Don’t be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord...”.

One of the greatest verses in your Bible!

Look what the Bible tells us King David did in a very difficult, discouraging time in his life.

1 Samuel 30:6 (KJV)- "...but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God."

HOW CAN I ENCOURAGE MYSELF IN THE LORD AND REVIVE MY SPIRIT?

a. Think About God's Goodness in the Past

Count your blessings my friend. "Count your blessings name them one by one. Count your blessings see what God has done."

b. Think About God's Closeness in the Present

Hebrews 13:5 (NKJV)- "....."I will never leave you nor forsake you."

c. Think about God's Faithfulness in the Future

He's already said He'll never leave us or forsake us!

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)- "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2 Corinthians 2:14 (AMP)- "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us spreads and makes evident everywhere the sweet fragrance of the knowledge of Him."

Destroy discouragement when you Renew Your Mind, Refocus Your Thoughts and Revive Your Spirit!

CONCLUSION: Today we're destroying discouragement!

Isaiah 41:10 (NLT)- "Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand."

WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU THROUGH THIS MESSAGE?