

Sermon Notes – 07.05.2026 – Be an Encourager

God Loves Us and We Have the Privilege of Loving Him Back with Our Lives

You and I can make a difference.

We Can Say and Do the Things that Change the World – One Person, One Situation at a Time

We Are Stewards / Managers of the Manifold Grace of God (1 Peter 4:10) – **That is Huge!**

God Has Given Us All Things that Pertain to Life and Godliness – We Have Something to Share

2 Peter 1:3 “seeing that **His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.**

Jesus Encouraged His Disciples

John 14:26-27 “But **the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.** **27** “**Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.**

Holy Spirit is the comforter/helper – one called to one’s side, especially called to one’s aid*

John 16:33 “**These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.**”

We Are Jesus’ Disciples if We Continue in His Word – We Are Called

John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;** **32** **And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

Jesus’ Original Disciples Told the Disciples That Came After Them to Become Encouragers

1 Thessalonians 5:11-15 “ Therefore **encourage one another and build up one another,** just as you also are doing. **12** But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, **13** and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. **14** **We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.** **15** See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but **always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.**”

Encourage - Old Testament Meaning - To Give Someone Strength – A Reason to Believe & Act *

Deuteronomy 3:28 'But **charge** Joshua and **encourage** him and **strengthen** him, for he shall go across at the head of this people, and he will give them as an inheritance the land which you will see.'

Two Are better than One – Sue and I Took Turns Encouraging Each Other

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10a “**Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor.** **10** **For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion...**”

Prophetic Word of Encouragement – Sometimes We Have a Holy Spirit-Given Word to Share

Isaiah 35:3-4 Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble. 4 Say to those with anxious heart, "Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God will come with vengeance; The recompense of God will come. But He will save you."

- If You Have No Specific Word from the Lord – Lean on God’s Word in the Scriptures.

Acts 15:32 Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, encouraged and strengthened the brethren with a lengthy message.

Romans 15:4-5 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus,

Encouragement (New Testament) means, “a calling near (especially for help), admonition, encouragement; that which provides comfort or refreshment **

The Ministry of Encouragement – Feed Your Heart & Guard Your Tongue

Acts 4:36 Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement),

Acts 11:21-24 “... they sent Barnabas off to Antioch. 23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain *true* to the Lord; 24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

- Description of a Son of Encouragement - “good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith”

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children. 12 so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

Be an Encourager – Focus on These Things

Philippians 2:1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

*Brown, Driver, Briggs Lexicon

**Thayer’s New Testament Words