

The
POWER
of
Encouragement

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6 NIV

“Encouragement”
(Greek *paraklesis*) -- “comfort,
exhortation, consolation and
strengthening.”

“The Helper”
(Greek *paraketos* -- Comforter,
Counselor, Advocate.

Encouragement is more than a positive thought. It's a spiritual provision given by God to sustain his people. Encouragement is how God reinforces the heart when life presses in and circumstances attempt to drain our hope.

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

FIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER:

1. Share God's Word.

*God, has given me a well-taught tongue, so I
know how to encourage tired people. He
wakes me up in the morning, wakes me up,
opens my ears to listen as one ready to take
orders. The Master, God, opened my ears,
and I didn't go back to sleep, didn't pull the
covers back over my head.*

Isaiah 50:4 Message

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. Romans 15:4 NIV

2. Stay connected to the church family.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

“A church is a network of believers who encourage each other to keep going even when they feel like quitting.”

Tony Evans

3. Point out the spiritual growth
of others.

*We ought always to thank God for you,
brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because
your faith is growing more and more, and the
love all of you have for one another is
increasing. 2 Thessalonians 1:3 NIV*

4. Give a gentle touch or hug.

A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said. Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!”⁴² Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed. Mark 1:40:42 NLT

5. Pray for one another.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18 NIV