

Encouragement

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When you talk, do not say harmful things, but say what people need. Eph. 4:29 **The Inspirational Bible**

...say only what helps, each word a gift. Eph. 4:29 **The Message**

I. Three Questions

1. Who are you CHEERING on in life?
2. Who are you ENCOURAGING?
3. How are you doing that?

II. Encouragement means EXPECT THE BEST - TO INSPIRE, TO IMPART COURAGE.

III. The Word of God says:

1. Acts 18:27 - To URGE forward or persuade.
2. I Thess. 5:11 - To STIMULATE another person to the ordinary duties of life.
3. I Thess. 5:14 - Means to CONSOLE, COMFORT and cheer up--especially the person who is discouraged and ready to give up. Loaning them your faith and hope until their own develops.

4. Bear one another's burdens - Gal. 6:2; Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:13
Bearing up means BRINGING ourselves next to another, so they don't fall.
5. Hebrews 3:13 - "Encourage one another every day" means encouragement is ASSOCIATED with PROTECTING the believer from callousness.
6. Hebrews 10:25 - "Let us encourage one another" means to keep someone on their feet, who, if left to himself would COLLAPSE.
7. Proverbs 12:25 - "Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but an encouraging word makes him glad."

How do we encourage others?

1. Listening
2. Affirming others
3. Support when another is hurting
4. Be a "balcony" person, not a "basement" person.