Build Each Other Up

1 Thessalonians 5:5-11 (ESV) ⁵ For you are all <u>children of light</u>, <u>children of the day</u>. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let <u>us keep awake</u> and <u>be sober</u>. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ <u>But since we belong to the day</u>, <u>let us be sober</u>, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹ Therefore <u>encourage one another</u> and <u>build one another</u> <u>up</u>, just as you are doing.

Ephesians 4:25-5:2 (ESV) ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let <u>each one of you speak</u> the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. ^{5:1} Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ² And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

- 1. We are called to take <u>responsibility</u> for one another as members of God's family. **Galatians 6:1-2 (ESV)** ¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- 2. God has given spiritual gifts to the Church for the purpose of building up one another.
- 3. Do I <u>encourage</u> or <u>discourage</u> other believers? Do I <u>build up</u> or <u>tear down</u>? Do I strengthen or weaken faith?
- 4. Paul gives 5 ways we can build others up in their faith.

1. SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE Eph. 4:15, 25

- 1. We never strengthen faith by weakening the gospel.
- 2. The **power** of **transformation** is founded in the **proclamation** of the **gospel**.
- 3. Let **everything** be done in love.

2. CONTROL YOUR EMOTIONS Eph. 4:26, 27

- 1. **Uncontrolled** anger brings destruction to and yourself.
- 2. The fruit of the spirit is **self-control**. Gal 5:23
- 3. We will have **emotional** responses to life situations—they should not be out of control.

3. SPEAK ENCOURAGING WORDS Eph. 4:29

- 1. The Greek word translated, "encourage" in 1 Thess. 5:11 is **parakaleo**—a word used to describe the **Holy Spirit's** ministry to saints.
- 2. Encourage in the Old Testament suggest **strengthening**. The Hebrew word is used hundred of times. Deut. 1:38; 3:28; Isa 41:7; 2 Chron. 30:22
- Encourage in the New Testament suggests <u>comforting</u>.
- 4. Encouragement requires thoughtful, sincere, and honest words.
- 5. The church should be <u>filled</u> with encouraging words.
 THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN BECAUSE YOU COME TO CHURCH EXPECTING SOMEONE TO ENCOURAGE YOU—THIS WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU COME TO CHURCH LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO ENCOURAGE. **DON'T GET SOUR!!!!!**

4. PRACTRICE KINDNESS-(Especially forgiveness) Eph 4:30-32

- 1. Unforgiveness is **destructive**.
- 2. Unforgiveness is a **sin**.
- 3. Kindness and tenderness build strong relationships and people.

5. WALK IN LOVE Eph 5:1-2

- 1. Follow the steps of **Jesus**.
- 2. Have genuine concern and **compassion** for others.

Romans 14:19 (ESV) So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

Romans 15:1-2 (ESV) ¹ We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. ² Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.