

Every message in the Series will land the same way

- *Get ready to GROW and live life fully*
- There are ***no*** spectators in the Kingdom.
- Gospel Reference
- Practical Application
- Personal Accountability
- One action
- One person
- One follow-up
- All message slides can be found at:
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“...By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you **love** one another.” John 13:35

OVERALL QUESTION: What does Love “**LOOK**” like from the outside?

How will someone **see** that you “love one another”?



Get your Journal out or your phone to take notes!

Turning the Corner

- We have weeded and turned over the soil
- **stopping destructive habits** (speech, burdens, forgiveness, gossip, pride)
- Now we start growing something beautiful!

Opening Prayer

- Take us on a journey...
- Open our hearts.
- Stop us from being offended and start listening
- Help us grow.
- Help us get comfortable with being uncomfortable

Review

1. Every word you speak is either building the ‘Church’... Or burning it down. (Eph 4/James 3)
2. “Don’t do something for someone that God is expecting them to do! But always help with what they cannot do alone.” (Gal 6)
3. **Serve One Another (skipped for now Acts 2-4)**
4. Bear with one another... forgive one another... and above all these put on love.
(Col 3:12–14, Eph 4:31–32)
5. **No more Triangles:** Whether you were hurt or caused the hurt—Talk To Them, Not About Them. (Matt 5:23–24 & 18:15)

6. Love goes Low. The greater you are,
the lower you must go. (John 13:1-17,
Luke 22:24-27)

last Time



Mature love Goes Low

- **Who did you tell about the message?**
- **Who encouraged you to do the challenge?**
- **Did you TRY to do your unnoticed act of service?**

Ice Breaker

- Who knows about Barnabas?
- Who remembers a time when one encouraging word changed everything?

Today's Big Idea

Love One Another #7

- Many people are fighting invisible battles.
- Sometimes they do not need advice.
- Sometimes they need encouragement.
- Encourage One Another
- **Love Builds Courage in Others**
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11 / Hebrews 10:24–25

1 Thessalonians 5:11

- ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
- Mature Love says:
- “Keep Going!”
- “You can do this!”
- “God has got you!”

What Does Encourage Mean?

- Give courage
- Strengthen
- Build up
- Help someone to keep going

Encouragement Examples

I can't do this...

- **“For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.” (2 Timothy 1:7)**
- **“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Corinthians 12:9)**
- **“I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” (Contentment and endurance, not achievement, Phil 4:13)**

Hebrews 10:24–25

- ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

“Stir up” or “Spur on”

Stirring someone into action - (*paroxysmos*)

So Hebrews isn't saying:

- “Give them a nice compliment.” Or a free pass.

It's closer to:

- “Figure out how to lovingly provoke one another into obedience.”
- It varies from person to person and from time to time.

Spurring People to Grow

"God enables obedience and real fruit" verses.

- ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)
- "For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure." (Philippians 2:13)

“love and good works”

- ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of **works**, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Eph 2:8-10)

- Grace saves us. Not works.
- Grace produces works.
- Saving grace **always** produces good works.

Words Matter

- A careless word can wound.
- An encouraging word can heal.
- **Death and life are in the power of the tongue**, and those who love it will eat its fruits. (Proverbs 18:21)
- A Great Example...

Joseph's Timeline

- **Acts 4** — Called Barnabas Son of Encouragement
- **Acts 9** — Barnabas believed in Paul.
- **Acts 11** — Barnabas searched for Paul.
- **Acts 13** — Barnabas served alongside Paul.
- **Acts 13** — Barnabas let Paul become the leader.
- **Acts 15** — Barnabas fought for Mark.
- **Later letters** — Barnabas' investment bore fruit.
(Col 4:10, Philemon 23–24, 2 Tim 4:11)

Barnabas Changed History

Without Barnabas:

- Paul may have remained isolated in Tarsus
- Mark may have abandoned ministry.
- How much longer might it have taken for the Gospel to spread across Asia Minor?
- Who would have taken the Gospel to Cyprus?
- Who would have comforted Paul awaiting his execution?

- Nearly half the books of the New Testament may never have been written.
- Mark may never have written his Gospel, which many scholars believe was the earliest Gospel and an important source used by Matthew and Luke.
- **One encourager changed history.**

Jesus- The Best Encourager

Jesus' encouragement sounds like:

- **"I've got you."**
- **"I will be with you always"**
- **"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."**
(Matt 14:27)
- **"Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."**
(Matt 11:28)



Abide in me - John 15

- "Whoever abides in me bears much fruit."
- His encouragement isn't:
- "You are strong."
- It is:
- **"Stay with Me and you will bear fruit."**

"I will not leave you as orphans." (John 14:18)

- Then He sent the Holy Spirit. (**'Paraclete'.**)
- Helper
- Comforter
- Advocate
- **Encourager**
- One called alongside
- Jesus literally gives us "the Encourager."

He encouraged us with hope

Hebrews repeatedly points believers to Christ.

Because Jesus lives...

- our suffering is temporary.
- our labour is not in vain.
- our future is secure.

Christian encouragement always looks forward.

The Gospel

- Your sins are forgiven.
- God has adopted you.
- Christ has defeated death.
- Nothing can separate you from His love.
- He will never leave you.
- He is preparing a place for you.
- He is coming again.
- That's **not** the power of 'positive thinking'.
- That's objective hope.



What Encouragement Looks Like

- Thank you
- That was an awesome job!
- I appreciate you
- Keep going
- I'm praying for you
- You can do this
- **God can do this!!**

Hidden Encouragers

Not everyone encourages from the stage.

Many quietly strengthen the church by:

-  Praying faithfully.
-  Serving behind the scenes.
-  Opening their homes.
-  Giving someone a lift.
-  Visiting the sick.

-  Listening over a coffee.
-  Giving generously.
-  Making a phone call.
-  Sending a message of encouragement.
-  Simply noticing someone who is struggling.
-  The person who unlocks the church every week.
-  The person who makes the tea and coffee.

-  The musicians who practise during the week.
-  The person who quietly cleans the building or mows the lawn.
-  The Sunday School teachers who prepare every week **and faithfully show up.**
- Some of the people who encourage everyone else are the very ones who most need encouragement themselves.

Two-sided Coin

Heads

My Nature/ The World

- Weaken
- Criticise
- Compare
- Compete
- Pull down

Tails

What Jesus Wants

Strengthen
Restore
Appreciate
Build Up
Encourage

- Only one side looks like Jesus

Second Coin

Two-sided Coin

Heads

Tails

Encouragement says: Spurring on says:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Thes 5;11• “Keep Going!”• “You can do this” | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heb 10:24-25• "Let's go! Get on with it"• “What’s stopping you?” |
|--|---|

Both Are Needed At the Right Time

Avoid the Two Ditches

Left Side - Flattery

- Praise that isn't true.
- Saying what people want to hear.
- Avoiding difficult conversations.

Right Side - **Constant Criticism**

- Always pointing out what is wrong.
- "You'll never change."
- "God can't use you."
- "Someone else will do it."

Middle of the Road



Biblical Encouragement

- "Speak the truth in love..." Eph 4:15
- Build courage.
- Call people to Trust Jesus and the HS.
- Help them obey Christ.
- "I believe God can help you grow."
- Let's take the next step together.

Diagnostic Questions

- Do my words build people up?
- Who needs encouragement this week?
- Do people leave stronger after talking to me?

Take Note

-  Mature love **strengthens** others.
-  Love **builds courage** in others.

Call To Action

- **Encourage** three people this week.
- One at **church**.
- One at **home**.
- One **outside** church.

Loving Accountability

- Who are you going to share this with that **WAS NOT** here today?
- Who will ask if you did it?
- Who will encourage you to do it?

Conclusion

A disciple of Jesus:

- Speaks life
- Helps wisely
- Forgives, and where possible restores
- Goes directly to the person
- Goes low.
- **"Builds courage."**

Final Word

- **Jesus put courage into us.**
- **Now go and put courage into someone else.**

Closing Prayer

- Lord, teach us to love each other like You loved us.
- Help us build people up

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