

# Happy Father's Day

- Show your kids what it means to live like Jesus: forgiving, sacrificing, and loving your family as Jesus loved the church.
- 1 Thess 2:11-12 - For you know how, like a father with his children, 12 we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

# Theme for this year:

- “Lord Help Me”
  - Increase my faith
  - Be a good steward
  - With Life’s Transitions
  - Train my Children
  - Encourage others

# What is encouragement?

- “a call to ones side”
- bringing someone closely alongside to:
  - exhort, urge, encourage, give joy, and comfort
- Therefore encourage one another with these words. (1 Thess 4:18)
- Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing (1 Thess 5:13)
- But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Heb 3:13)

# Why we need encouragement

- We live in a broken world
- It's been broken since sin entered the world
- Broken world calls everything toward
  - Selfishness and despair
  - Our bodies break down
  - Our plans faulted
  - Our dreams die
  - Our resolve weakens
  - Our perspective dims

# Why we need encouragement

- Persecution -
- Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. (John 15:20)
- Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, (2 Tim 3:12)

# Why we need encouragement

- Suffering -
- Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. Selfishness and despair (1 Pet 4:12)
- Various trials
- Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. (James 1:2-3)

# God knows we need encouragement

- But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. Jesus told his disciples to encourage one another (Heb 3:13)
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# Biblical Encouragement

- Gives hope that lifts up someone's heart
- Points evidence of God working in our lives
- Points people to God's promises
- Assures people that God is in control
- I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, (Col 4:8)



# Biblical Encouragement

- Faith - (Acts 14:22)
- strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.
- Hope - (Rom 15:4)
- For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope

# Biblical Encouragement

- Unity - (Rom. 15:5; Col. 2:2)
- May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,
- that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,

# Biblical Encouragement

- joy - (Acts 15:31),
- And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement.
- Strength - (Acts 15:32),
- And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words.

# How do we begin?

- 1. Pray for God to make you an encourager.
- 2. Study Barnabas and ask God to make you like him
- 3. Make encouragement a daily discipline
- 4. Pray for God to show you who to encourage
- 5. Use Scripture while you encourage
- 6. Be specific in what you say.
- 7. Get started

# To God be the Glory

- Eph 3:20-21
- Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen