

A Sermon Transcript Based On Hebrews 10:24-25...

We All Need To Be Encouraged To Get Going Or Keep Going As We Follow Jesus.

ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER



ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER IN JESUS
IS A VERY BIG THING

Jimmy D. Brown

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Spurring on One Another to Lives of Love and Good Works

Listen to what the Bible says in Hebrews 10:24-25...

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 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. - Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)

Every Christian should not only lovingly do good things, but should also spur on other Christians to lovingly do good things.

This includes encouraging both those who are passive and those who are active in serving God's kingdom. Some people need to be convinced to get going. Some people need to be cheered to keep going.

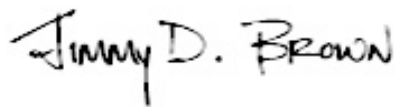
It's easy to get distracted and discouraged when it comes to pursuing eternal priorities, so we need to help each other not lose focus and not lose heart.

Instead of assuming others will continue in a life of good works in the Name of Jesus, we should be affirming them as they do.

My prayer as you read the enclosed sermon transcript is simply this...

*That you will see the importance of mutual encouragement
in Christ, and build it into your schedule and your life.*

All for Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy D. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

P.S. Download your free copy of *Stir Them Up: A Biblical And Practical Guide To Encouragement* at JimmyBrown.com for lots of practical ideas.

[Begin Sermon Transcript]

Years ago, Paula and I call Pizza Hut and place an order. They say, *"We'll have it ready in 30 minutes."* So, half an hour later I walk in and say, *"I'm here to pick up my cheese sticks."* And the guy just looks at me and goes, *"Yeah ... we don't have those."* I'm like, *"I called. You guys said 30 minutes. Gimme my food."*

Then the guy goes, *"Well, who did you talk to?"* Don't you hate it when they do that? I don't know who I talked to. A *Pizza Hut* person. The *guy who answers the phone!* The one who said, *"We'll have your cheese sticks in 30 minutes."* I didn't think to jot down his full name in case they pretended this never happened.

So, they apologize and promise to make me the cheese sticks right away. My order soon arrives and I start writing out the check, and as I write *Pizza Hut* in the *"pay to the order of"* line... I realize... I'm not at *Pizza Hut*. I'm at *Pizza Inn*.

So, yeah. Turns out, we just went to the wrong place. That's why they didn't have our order. They didn't mess up. *We* messed up. So, I paid—as fast as possible—left, got in the car, drove *next door* to the actual Pizza Hut, where my real cheese sticks had been sitting. For *thirty minutes*.

You know, it's funny how something that seems like a small detail—just 1/10th of a mile apart between these two pizza places —can make a big difference. It can be the difference between getting or doing what is expected and being completely off track. The things that seem small or insignificant to us can actually have a much bigger impact than we realize.

Let's think for a moment about some things the Bible tells us.

Don't kill people. That's a big one, right? We see a statement like that, and we take it very seriously. God doesn't want us to commit murder. Got it. Let's not do that.

What else? Go into the world and make disciples.

Another big one. Again, this is serious business. God does want us to go tell people about Jesus, from those closest to us to those farthest from us. Let's do that.

And there's a lot more where those two came from. Things we should do. Things we should not do.

But when you think of all the commandments and instructions in the Bible, one that probably doesn't immediately spring to mind is the one I'm about to say...

Encouraging one another.

Here's what you and I need to understand...

This is a big one.

(They ALL are, actually.)

Think about this for just a moment, because at first glance, it may not seem like "*encouraging one another*" is anywhere near the same level of seriousness as murder and evangelism. But it is.

Here's why: God said to do it. And if we don't do as He expects us to do with this, we're going to get completely off track in our lives as we follow Jesus.

Think about these two realities we face every single day as Christians...

1. The world DISCOURAGES US *as* we follow Jesus.

People tell us we're wasting our time, that our faith is outdated or that we should compromise to fit in. Or they oppose us outright, they mock us, they shut down doors of opportunity or they even mistreat us because of our faith.

And sometimes it's not people, it's circumstances. The brokenness of the world can weight heavy on us, can't it? Suffering, injustice, disasters, sin – sometimes it feels like darkness is winning. Tragedies can shake our faith and the daily struggles of life can wear us down.

The world discourages us as we follow Jesus, but it doesn't stop there. It does something that's even worse and that is...

2. The world ENCOURAGES US *not to* follow Jesus.

It bombards us with messages that point us away from Him. Through news, entertainment, advertising and social media, we're fed a steady stream of distractions and substitutes.

We're tempted to live for comfort, success and pleasure, focusing on the temporary rather than the eternal. The world urges us to chase after wealth, status and approval, making faith seem inconvenient or even unnecessary. Busyness can crowd out time with God, and endless entertainment can numb our hearts to Him.

*Without even realizing it, we can get swept up in a life
that looks good on the outside but keeps us far from Jesus.*

When it comes to encouraging one another, God said to do it because He knows we need it.

So, here's my main point for this morning, the one thing I hope we all take away from today's message...

Encouraging one another in Jesus is a very big thing.

Turn in your Bibles to Hebrews chapter 10. We're going to take a close look at two verses this morning ... verses 24 and 25.

If you don't have a Bible with you, you can follow along on the screen behind me. Hebrews 10, verses 24 and 25 say this...

[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. (ESV)

Whether we are encouraging one another to go and make disciples or not to go and commit murder, stirring up one another to a life of love and good works has been commanded by God.

And we ought to take that seriously.

Now, from the beginning, I want to tell you some things "encouraging one another" can do as God works through that encouragement to change the lives of people. I want to build a strong case here.

- Encouragement can lift the dejected by reminding them that Jesus has not forgotten them and that His grace will be sufficient for them.
- Encouragement can embolden the timid by giving them the confidence to step forward in faith despite their fears because Jesus is with them.
- Encouragement can affirm the doers by recognizing their efforts and reinforcing the value of their work as they serve in the way Jesus has modeled for them.
- Encouragement can motivate the passive by awakening a sense of purpose... and calling them to action so they start doing what God made them to do.
- Encouragement can correct the wayward by gently guiding them back to truth of God's Word and helping them return to God's path for their lives.

ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER

- Encouragement can help the needy by offering them support and assistance... and assuring them that because they have brothers and sisters in Christ, they are never alone.
- Encouragement can guide the confused by providing clarity, wisdom, and direction from God's Word in times of uncertainty.
- Encouragement can strengthen the weak by reminding them that the power of Jesus is made perfect in their weakness and they can do all things through Him.
- Encouragement can comfort the hurting by repeating the words of love, understanding, hope and promise found in the Bible.

And I want to point out that all of this is *"in Jesus."*

And this is by no means an exhaustive list. There are many other entries that could be added, but I hope you get the seriousness of this.

*God can change hearts, circumstances, lives, stories and eternities
when you encourage other people in Jesus.*

Like I said earlier, life in this fallen world is filled with challenges.

There is temptation to fight. There is suffering to endure. There is busyness to manage. There is distraction to overcome. There is joy to experience. There is purpose to fulfil. There is good to do.

One of God's means of grace for us to be who we were made to be and do what we were made to do is mutual encouragement. It is essential that we each do our part in admonishing, building up and cheering on others in Jesus.

Encouraging one another in Jesus is a very big thing.

So, we're going to dig into these two verses to unpack their meaning – because this is just loaded.

But the first thing we need to do here is establish some context.

The writer of Hebrews in the previous verses has just unpacked the grace of God toward us in the person and work of Jesus.

Jesus has atoned for our sins and provides access to God for us and is our Great High Priest who is always interceding on our behalf. His work on the cross is done and He has sat down at the right hand of God

until it is time for His return.

What Jesus has already done is the basis for what the writer tells us next. What Jesus has accomplished. That's our confidence. That's our motivation. That's our strength. And so, grounded in the finished work of Jesus, we are given three different *"let us"* statements for how we are to respond.

And this morning, we're focusing on the third of those statements.

So, let's walk through these two verses together, phrase-by-phrase, to see what this means and what this looks like for us here today...

Phrase #1: *"Let us Consider."*

What that means is we are to pay careful attention to each other's lives and not be so focused on ourselves that we don't even notice what other people are saying or doing or needing.

Encouraging one another in Jesus requires serious thought on our part.

We are to notice one another. We are to focus on one another. We are to think about one another. To build up each other in Christ requires taking note of what is going on in each other's lives. Not as nosy busybodies, but as caring brothers and sisters in Christ who have been commanded by God to look and listen for areas where others need to be encouraged.

That's how we know who and when and where and how to best build up others. Because we've been watching them. And seeing what they are going through. And considering ways that are timely and appropriate and led by the Holy Spirit to spur them on in Christ. And others are to do the same for us.

So, we are to intentionally spend time thinking about others with a specific goal in mind, which we'll see in a moment. And that brings us to...

Phrase #2: *"How to Stir Up One Another."*

Before we get to what this actually means, let me tell you what it doesn't mean with a quick story. When Paula and I got married, I weighed 155 pounds. Two years later, I had packed on 77 pounds and went from size 28 waist to size 40. We were living our best life, y'all. Lots of cheese sticks. Double orders.

One night on a camping trip, I went to the shower house—one shower, first-come, first-served. A kid, maybe 8 or 9, was waiting for his brother and casually called out, *"Hurry up, there's a big boy out here who wants to shower."* Okay, a little rude, but I let it slide. Then, after what felt like forever, the kid yells, *"Hurry up! This big fat man wants to take a shower!"*

Now, listen—that stirred me up. Not in a *“let’s hit the gym”* kind of way. Not in a *“maybe I should cut back on the cheese sticks”* way. Not in a *“love and good works”* way as our text says. No, it made me mad. It made me want to sit on this kid.

Usually stirring things up brings about negative results such as stirring up a hornet’s nest. In fact, the Greek word in this verse translated as “stir up” usually appears in negative contexts and can be used to describe someone or some situation where there is annoyance or sharp disagreement. Its primary meaning is to react strongly to something.

But here, it’s not negative. It’s just the opposite. In this context, it means getting others to take positive action. Different translations of this verse use words like spur on, motivate, encourage, stimulate, promote. Specifically, as we’ll talk about next, it means to help others become loving people. To spur on others to do good works.

What we’re talking about here is like teammates who push each other to work harder and do better and go farther into living by faith and we don’t stop pushing until every person we know loves like Jesus and every good work has been completed.

This is a continuous, repeated action. It’s about regularity. It’s about persistence. It’s about staying active and being intentional about it until it produces a result. We aren’t to nag each other, but we aren’t to give up on each other either.

And notice that it says in our text that we are to consider *“how to”* stir up one another. Stirring up one another in Jesus is practical. We say something. We do something. Whether it’s a text, email, phone call, social media comment or personal conversation, an motivating word is to be delivered. Whether it’s a task completed, a gift given, an event attended, or a request granted, a motivating work is to be done.

We are to speak to and show support to people in real ways so that they are stirred up in a good way and for a good purpose. And what is that purpose? Let’s look at the next phrase to find out...

Phrase #3: *“To Love and Good Works.”*

It’s interesting that he doesn’t tell us to love each other and do good works ourselves. That’s true for us, but that’s not what we are told here. Here the writer says we are to pay attention to others and think about ways we can spur on others so THEY become loving people and THEY do good works.

The point here is what happens in THEIR lives and through THEIR lives as a result of what God has instructed us to do. And, of course, other Christians are supposed to do this for us as well.

Remember that *“considering”* we talked about earlier? That thinking about and focusing on others is

supposed to help us understand them well enough so we know how to stir them up to this love and good works. What helps for one person won't necessarily help for another person. What works in one situation won't necessarily work for another situation. So, we have to think about what does this person need in this situation in order to get them going or keep them going.

- Some people need a CLEAR EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW so we show them what it looks like to love others in our communities, workplaces and homes.
- Others need a GENTLE PUSH to use their spiritual gifts, share their faith or join a ministry team.
- There are those who need AFFIRMATION that they are serving well, that they should keep doing what they're doing and that Scripture assures them their labor isn't in vain.

By modeling the Christian faith, speaking the truths of the Bible, and showing appreciation, God can work through us to ignite a passion for love and good works.

But, if that's going to happen, we need to understand phrase #4...

Phrase #4: *"Not Neglecting To Meet Together As Is The Habit Of Some."*

Listen to me...

Encouraging one another depends upon us firstly showing up.

We have to be present in each other's lives in order to stir up one another to love and good works, in order to encourage one another in Jesus. We have to show up. We have to be there for each other and with each other. This includes corporate worship gatherings, small group meetings and one-on-one settings as we do life together, as we follow Jesus together.

God has graciously ordained Christian community for the well-being of us all. The world is discouraging with its troubles, pressures, lies, hurts, failures and sins. But by giving us the command to meet together to spur on each other in Jesus, God has given us a powerful weapon to defeat despair. As we rely on the presence of Jesus who never leaves nor forsakes us, we can be there for each other too.

Now, listen, that doesn't mean you have to be at every church gathering, function and event or that you have to accept every invitation, request or opportunity to be with other Christians in a personal setting. That's not what this is saying. What this is saying is we don't need to neglect being together. We don't need to get into the habit of being distant from our brothers in sisters in Christ. As often as possible, we are to come together as the people of God. We have to show up to show care. Are you guys tracking with me?

Okay, let's move on to...

Phrase #5: *"But Encouraging One Another."*

While there are many reasons for us to show up in each other's lives and for us to gather together as the church, the one mentioned here is to *"encourage one another."*

So, this is a good place for me to define Biblical encouragement so we're all on the same page. It's not about making others feel better about themselves or their lives.

True encouragement is helping others be who they were made to be and do what they were made to do in Jesus.

To grow in their identity in Jesus and live out that identity in everyday life. In context here, to be loving people who do good works and endure in their faith until the end. That's why from the beginning I said the main point today is...

Encouraging one another IN JESUS is a very big thing.

The difference between Christian encouragement and any other type of encouragement is that it centers on who we are in Jesus and what we do as followers of Jesus by the power of Jesus to the glory of Jesus so we can experience the full joy of Jesus. It's a little bit about us and a whole lot about Jesus.

That's why Biblical encouragement never affirms sin. We don't promote thoughts, actions, or desires contrary to God's will. Instead, we share the superior joy found in Jesus, not a "you do you" message. We urge one another to read Scripture, pray, serve, obey, trust Jesus, and live out the gospel.

True encouragement both supports and warns—rejecting trivial pursuits and temptation while embracing eternal purpose and grace. Every time it says *"don't do this,"* it also says *"do this"* because it should always pair warnings about the world with an invitation to the better life found in Christ.

Now, listen...

- Some people need ACCOUNTABILITY to help them resist temptation or have a daily time of prayer and Bible reading or lead their families well.
- Others need SOMEONE TO WALK ALONGSIDE THEM during a season of suffering or as they start attending a small group or when they go on a mission trip.
- There are those who need you to TELL THEM YOU'RE PRAYING for them, to ASSURE THEM OF

GOD'S LOVE for them or to be someone who REGULARLY INVESTS in them as they grow in their faith.

There are countless ways to encourage one another and they all have something to do with BEING Christians and LIVING AS Christians.

We all need to be encouraged to get going or to keep going as we follow Jesus.

Okay, let's move on to our last phrase...

Phrase #6: *"And All The More As You See The Day Appearing."*

So, what the writer is referring to when he says *"The Day"* is the return of Jesus. And he's saying all of the stirring up and encouraging we are to do has a connection to that return. Let's look at that in a couple of ways...

First, the need for encouragement escalates the closer we draw to the triumphant return of Jesus.

There should be a built-in urgency for us to spur on one another. Why? Because nearness to the second coming of Jesus means we have less and less time remaining now to do things that will matter forever.

We have a fixed number of days for us to be loving people and do good works before we meet Jesus face-to-face (through our going to Him in death or Him coming to us in life) and that number is shrinking every day.

And as the brokenness and suffering and persecution and sinfulness around us gets worse, there is a desperate need for us to model His love and goodness. So, let us stir up *all the more*.

Second, our encouragement of one another is based on the real hope of better things ahead.

Our encouragement would be in vain if there was not a guarantee that things will work out for good in the end. If our faith is going to be strengthened and our lives are going to be spurred on to love and good works and we are going to be encouraged here and now, there has to be something more than a fingers-crossed assurance that everything is going to be okay and everything is going to be worth it.

And there is.

This is the hope of our encouragement: Jesus is coming.

To right wrongs. To end sin and suffering. To take us home. To be together. To give reward. To make us endlessly happy as we glorify Him forever. Every word and act of encouragement should point to this:

The day of His return is drawing nearer and nearer.

Years ago, a dog slowly crawled into our yard, terrified and shaking. When we approached, he collapsed on his back, too scared to stand. It was clear he'd been mistreated. For weeks, he scooted on his belly whenever we came near, so we named him Scooter and took him in. And as we loved him and cared for him, he changed. In time, he ran, leaped, and played. It was amazing to see.

Maybe today, you feel like Scooter—beaten down by life over the years, maybe struggling with something this morning. Listen: it won't always be this way. Help is on the way. Jesus is coming. One day, if you know Him, you'll run, you'll leap, and you'll never be beaten down again.

Or maybe there's a Scooter in your life—someone hurt, afraid, needing love. We've all been Scooter, and we all know a Scooter. So let's lift each other up, love like Jesus, and hold out the hope of His return.

After other Christians have been around us, they should leave more stirred up and more encouraged than before they got to us. Even if we have to say or do hard things in love. They should know we are for them and we want God's very best for them. They should be so glad that we spent time together because it really built them up in Jesus.

And listen, we should RUN to other Christians when we need to be built up ... run to those we know will lift our spirits and stir our affections for Jesus.

Look at me ...

*You need to be an encourager in the lives of other Christians and
you need to surround yourself with other Christians who encourage you.*

So, let's spend a few minutes thinking about what you and I can do in order to be the kind of encouragers God means for us to be as we spur on each other to be loving people and to do good works. By now, I think we can all agree that...

Encouraging one another in Jesus is a very big thing.

And since it's such a big thing, we should intentionally and consistently invest ourselves into doing it, so how do we do it?

So, I'm going to share three very practical things you can do, but first let me say this...

We need to ask God for grace to make us into the encouragers we need to be and then we need to rely on the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to opportunities and lead us in the way we should encourage. These

are practical things for us to do, but we do them in reliance on God.

1. MAKE A LIST OF PEOPLE WHO NEED TO BE ENCOURAGED.

Who do you know that needs to be spurred on and built up in their faith? Every. Single. Believer. Starting with your closest connections and extending outward, make a list of the Christians in your life. They can live near you or far from you. These include family, friends, church members, co-workers, neighbors, team-mates, etc.

Don't assume some of them already have a lot of encouragers ... assume they don't. Don't assume they don't need encouragement ... assume they do. You be the encourager who shows up in their lives. Whether your list is 25 or 250, God has put people into your life so you can spur them on as they follow Jesus.

And, listen, put your pastor and his wife on your list. Make sure you encourage them, affirm them, check-in on them, do good to them and care for them regularly. BTW, if you're new here ... I'm not the pastor. Like, this isn't a plea for you guys to take Paula and me to lunch today, okay? Although ... ya know, Culver's is right over there ... and it's one of our favorite places. We usually get the kid's meal, so it won't cost you much money. Okay, so that's not in the text. Where was I? Seriously – take care of Barry and Lisa. They are precious to us, so let's let them know that, amen?

2. DETERMINE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO ENCOURAGE THEM.

A few ideas include...

- Share Scripture – Send a verse through a text, card, or conversation to remind others of God's truth.
- Show Up – Support those serving Jesus by attending, participating, and being present where it matters.
- Cheer Others On – Acknowledge and affirm the good you see in people as they serve and follow Christ.
- Lend a Hand – Look for practical ways to help—cook a meal, run an errand, or meet a need.
- Give a Gift – Thoughtful, simple gifts can uplift others, whether handmade or purchased.
- Share Resources – Pass along books, sermons, podcasts, or other tools that encourage faith.

- Check In – Reach out regularly to see how others are doing and where they need support and how you can pray for them.
- Have Gospel Conversations – Remind others of their identity in Christ and God’s promises.

You can do just a little research online and find countless ideas for spurring on others and encouraging others in Christ.

When you have your ideas...

3. PUT ENCOURAGING OTHERS ON YOUR SCHEDULE.

Jobs. Events. Appointments. Vacations. Do you know what you are most likely not to forget? Things you put on your schedule. It is important that you intentionally set aside time on a regular basis to encourage the people on the list you made.

Whether this is five minutes per day to work through your list one person at a time or one time per week that you reach out to five people, it is essential that you create a regular routine.

Mark it on your calendar. Set a reminder on your phone. Your schedule helps ensure that encouraging others gets done. The important thing here is to get a plan in place and get started.

Just as a quick sidenote, I wrote a short book about encouragement titled “Stir Them Up: A Biblical And Practical Guide To Encouragement” which has a lot of ideas in it with even more explanation.

You can download it for free at JimmyBrown.com and then read it on your favorite device if you’re interested.

Now, listen, there is something that I need to say this morning about encouraging others that I hope you’ll take to heart...

*You’re gonna blow it.
You’re gonna mess this very big thing up big time.*

You’re probably thinking...

“Thanks for the pep talk, Jimmy. What page in your little book does it talk about us being failures? You’re about as encouraging as the evening news or my Facebook feed during election week.”

The truth is, you and I aren’t always going to get this right.

There are times when we will get wrong all of the things we are supposed to do for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. We will forget, not consider. We will criticize, not stir up. We will neglect, not meet together. We will discourage, not encourage.

But there is grace for us. There is grace to forgive us when we get it wrong this time and grace to help us get it right next time. And that well of God's grace never runs dry. No matter how much considering, stirring up, meeting together and encouraging has been left out in the past or left to do in the future, His grace is sufficient when we have saving faith in Jesus.

And that's the point of it all...

To point us to Jesus.

To remind each other that we never outgrow our need for Him. To tell each other that real life is found only in Him. To encourage each other so we will keep going with Him. To spur on each other to do great things through Him. To speak to each other in such a way that we all want more of Him.

Now, before we close, let me share the most encouraging thing I can tell you today.

This is the most uplifting, motivating, inspiring, reassuring and thrilling thing you will ever hear if it lands on your heart with the kind of weight that it should.

Earlier in chapter 10 of Hebrews these words spoken by God are written...

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Isn't that glorious? Jesus has made a once-for-all sacrifice of Himself ... His blood was shed, His body was broken for you and me – so we can be fully and forever forgiven of our sins so that God no longer holds them against us.

Instead of facing God's wrath for our sin, we can receive His grace. Instead of going to hell forever, we can go to heaven. Instead of missing out on what He has planned for us, we can have it all. Instead of not knowing Him, we can delight in Him forever.

Listen, our biggest problem isn't that we sin by neglecting each other or discouraging each other; our biggest problem is that we sin ... period.

And listen to what the very next two verses in Hebrews 10 say...

[26] For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer

remains a sacrifice for sins, [27] but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. (ESV)

And we can avoid that if we don't reject Jesus. We can be free from that. There CAN be a sacrifice for our sin. There can be a REMOVAL of judgment.

Jesus did a VERY BIG THING for us ... the BIGGEST THING of all ... when He lived the life we couldn't live, died in our place to atone for us and rose victorious over sin, Satan and death so we can have forgiveness, transformation and eternal life.

How encouraging is that? If you've tasted that, say "Amen!"

And, listen, if you haven't put your faith in Jesus, you can do that right here, right now and God will no longer remember your sins. Jesus took your judgment so you don't have to.

If you want to be saved this morning, just ask God to forgive you and change you and welcome you. And if you mean it, He will do it. If you have questions about that or want to make that decision this morning, we have people on the front row who will be glad to talk with you or pray with you. Or you can come talk with me, I'll be up here too. But won't you come?

For those of us who already have tasted of His goodness and stand here as a people whose sins are no longer remembered and who are empowered by His grace...

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 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.

Don't underestimate the importance of this or the power in this.

Broken relationships can be salvaged. Families can be guarded. Suffering can be endured. Ministries can be started. Lives can be transformed.

God has called us to gather for mutual encouragement as a means for persevering and flourishing and influencing not only each other, but the world.

So, let's be intentional. Let's show up. Let's commit to helping each other keep our faith and keep our focus until Jesus comes for us or calls us home.

Encouraging one another in Jesus is a very big thing.

Let's pray...

ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER

Heavenly Father, would you help us this morning to see how important it is for us to spur on one another and encourage one another in Jesus and how this is for our good and for our joy and for your honor and your glory. We ask for the grace to know who and when and where and how to do these things. For those here today who have never trusted Jesus, will you give them the assurance this morning that if they will do that, then you will remember their sins no more. Save those who need to be saved. Encourage those who need to be encouraged. Spur on those who need to be spurred on. And, most of all, be glorified in all that we say and do as we go. We pray this in Jesus' Name, amen.

Reflection Questions

1. What stood out to you from this message as most meaningful? Why?
2. What was the central idea or theme from this message?
3. What Bible verses or passages were used, and how do they support the message?
4. How does this message relate to your life right now?
5. In what ways did this message convict, encourage or inspire you?
6. What good news did you receive in this message?
7. What did you learn about God that is praiseworthy in this message?
8. How was grace and the gospel presented in this message?
9. What do you think God wants you to do as a response to this message?
10. With whom do you need to share or discuss this message?

PRAY IT

- *God, I praise you because...*
- *I confess that I struggle with...*
- *I thank you for...*
- *Please help me...*

Connecting With Me

If you have questions about any of the enclosed material, or if you have any other questions about life with Jesus, please reach out to me by using the *Contact* form at the bottom of the page at *JimmyBrown.com* (making sure you enter your email address correctly). I will personally reply back to you, usually within 24 hours (excluding holidays or weekends).

NOTE: There are a number of free resources available at www.JimmyBrown.com, and I regularly add more to the site. Check back often for additional materials to access at no cost.

Other Connections

- Social media (personal page): www.Facebook.com/thejimmydbrown/
- Daily devotions: www.FinishLineFaith.com or www.Facebook.com/FinishLineFaith/
- Travel / mission vlog (with my wife, Paula): www.TheMissionAmerica.com

*If this resource has been helpful to you, please reach out and let me know.
And please pass this document on to other people who may, by the grace of God, be helped too.*