



BIG IDEA:

We all love being encouraged, but how often do we use our words to encourage others? God calls us to use our words to bring encouragement to those around us. But more than our words, our lives are to be an encouragement as well as we walk alongside others. God doesn't call us to be cheerleaders on the sidelines, but to go through battle in the trenches.

DISCUSSION:

1. When was the last time someone encouraged you? What did they say? How did you feel?
2. Read Hebrews 3:13. What does this verse say about encouragement? Did you encourage someone today? When was the last time you encouraged somebody?
3. We typically tend to encourage with our words, but that's not all God calls us to. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12. How does God call us to encourage one another?

As a father loves his own children. We are to come alongside others. We are to encourage not just with our words, but with our lives.

4. Sometimes we don't encourage because we don't know the words to say. What are other ways to bring encouragement to people?

Prayer – tell them you're praying for them or pray for them right there
Scripture – 2 Timothy 3:16

5. What is the ultimate encouragement for everyone? Read 1 Peter 1:3-6.

Jesus – We are a new creation because of Jesus. We may suffer, but our hope is in heaven.

6. We've spent the last month looking at how God tells us to use your words. We've looked at preaching the word, correcting, rebuking, and encouraging. Have you seen a change in your life in what you've said or how you've used your words? Where has God challenged you in the area of using your words?

APPLICATION:

7. Encourage someone in your group right now. Live out Proverbs 16:24, speak life into someone and bring healing to their bones. Spend some time blessing the friends around you.
8. How can you go out of your way and encourage someone this week?



MEMORY VERSE 2 TIMOTHY 4:2

Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.