



The Heart of the Matter

Few things steal a church's joy like discouragement . . . especially if that discouragement comes not from outside circumstances but from inside instigators. Scripture tells us that we are to "stimulate one another to love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24). But far too often we choose instead to speak words that dishearten, hinder, and deter each other from living the life God intends. Just imagine being part of a church family where everyone encourages one another, builds each other up in word and deed, exhorts each other in truth, and comforts one another. If these words and actions were to pulse through our church community, a superficial fellowship would be transformed into something far more significant: a family.



Discovering the Way

1. Encouragement Explained

At its heart, encouragement requires that we speak to one another. Encouragement cannot happen without our words!

2. The Biblical Basis for Encouragement (Hebrews 10:19–25)

The Bible teaches us that the calling of every believer is to offer encouraging words that build up, increase strength, and center on the truth.



Starting Your Journey

We should make it our goal to encourage everyone we meet — to take time to hear their concerns, to be slow to speak that we might be quick to bring comfort.



Tools for Digging Deeper



Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Returning to Our Roots
by Charles R. Swindoll
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Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Essential Truths for Becoming Strong in the Faith
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