



encouraged

Learning to Encourage One Another

Romans 15:14-16

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • February 4 & 5, 2012 • Book of Romans week 95 • CD 12-04

14 I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another. **15** But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God **16** to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. (ESV)

1. Encourage _____ (v.14)

2. Always _____ (vv.14, 16)

3. See _____ (vv.15-16)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **2 Thessalonians 3:10-15**. Here is an example of a biblical command which was being disobeyed by some in the Thessalonian church. Notice that all the "brothers" were given the responsibility to "warn" (v.15 – i.e., *noutheteo* – which is the same Greek word translated "instruct" in Rom.15:14) someone they observe disregarding that command. What are some of the excuses we use to avoid this kind of responsibility toward our brothers and sisters in Christ?
2. Read **James 5:19-20**. What would you say to someone who says that intruding into someone else's spiritual life is "unloving" and "judgmental"? Or what about those who say, "I don't want to try to be the Holy Spirit in someone else's life!" What biblical realities is a person who says such things clearly misunderstanding or underestimating?
3. Read **2 Corinthians 7:5-7**. Notice here how time spent with brothers and sisters in Christ (and even news from them) can be used as a conduit of God's encouragement. What specific steps can you take to be used by God this week to "comfort" someone who is "downcast"?
4. What are some of the bad motives that can corrupt our attempts to instruct, correct or support our brothers and sisters in Christ? What destructive results come from those kinds of badly motivated efforts?

The CBC Bible Reading Schedule for this Week:

Go to ESV.org (Reading Plans: Though the Bible) for schedule prompts.

February 5th

Ex.37-38 & Mt.23:23-39

February 6th

Ex.39-40 & Mt.24:1-22

February 7th

Lev.1-3 & Mt.24:23-51

February 8th

Lev.4-6 & Mt.25:1-30

February 9th

Lev.7-9 & Mt.25:31-46

February 10th

Lev.10-12 & Mt.26:1-19

February 11th

Lev.13 & Mt.26:20-54

February 12th

Lev.14 & Mt.26:55-75

For MP3 sermons go to FPR.info. The following are other available sermons related to today's subject matter.

CD # 0302 – **Caring Enough to Confront Unholy Behavior**

CD # 0206 – **People Tools: Committed to Encouragement**

CD # 0022 – **Catalytic Christians: God's Urgent Instructions for Church Attenders**

CD # 0702 – **Motivated by Real Christian Friends**

CD # 0426 – **Rethinking Church Habits and Christ's Intentions**

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Adams, Jay. **Competent to Counsel: Introduction to Nouthetic Counseling**. Zondervan, 1986.

_____. **The Biblical View of Self-Esteem, Self-Love & Self-Image**. Harvest House, 1986.

_____. **The Christian Counselor's Manual**. Zondervan, 1973.

Ganz, Richard. **PsychoBabble: The Failure of Modern Psychology and the Biblical Alternative**. Crossway, 1993.

Kruis, John G. **Quick Scripture Reference for Counseling, Third Edition**. Baker Books, 2009.

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. **Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Cure**. Eerdmans, 1965.

MacArthur, John and Wayne Mack, eds. **Introduction to Biblical Counseling**. Thomas Nelson, 1994.

Miller, Patricia A. and Keith R. Miller. **Quick Scripture Reference for Counseling Youth**. Baker Books, 2006.

Miller, Patricia. **Quick Scripture Reference for Counseling Women**. Baker Books, 2002.

Needham, David. **Alive for the First Time: A Fresh Look at the New Birth Miracle**. Multnomah Press, 1995.

Owen, John. **Overcoming Sin & Temptation**. Crossway Books, 2006.

Playfair, William L. **The Useful Lie: Disease Model, Addictions and Codependence**. Crossway, 1991.

Sande, Ken. **The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflicts**. Baker Books, 1997.

Welch, Edward T. **Blame It on the Brain? Distinguishing Chemical Imbalances and Disobedience**. P & R, 1998.