



The purpose of this module is to:

**Inspire God's people to inspire others to live for Him.**

**Objective:**

- *To offer encouragement to Christ-followers to encourage others to follow His lead.*

**I. Introduction**

- A. When we \_\_\_\_\_ people, they are inspired, given hope, stimulated to serve, and injected with courage.
- B. We could say encouragement is a “courage transfusion.”
- C. When we encourage others, we \_\_\_\_\_ their value and importance.
- D. Encouragement \_\_\_\_\_ the significance of the relationship we have with others.
- E. Encouragement \_\_\_\_\_ hope-filled words, e.g. “You make a difference in my life.”
- F. Encouragement \_\_\_\_\_ appreciation for the past, affirmation of present friendships, and a positive future forecast.

**II. Scriptures that Encourage Encouraging:**

- A. Hebrews 10:24 teaches encouragement is a . . .
  1. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry--“ . . . spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ (selfless) ministry—“consider one another.”
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry—“spur one another.”
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry—“one another.”
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry—“ . . .and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

B. Hebrews 3:13 calls for a . . .

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry--“But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today...”
2. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry—“But encourage one another daily, . . .”
3. \_\_\_\_\_ ministry—“. . . so none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”\*

C. Romans 12:8

1. God \_\_\_\_\_ the gift of encouragement to the church through individuals.
2. Some people are uniquely \_\_\_\_\_ to build up others through encouragement.
3. Barnabas encouraged people. The New Testament church sent him out to build up Christians. He sought out Paul to help him with the work of ministry (Acts 11:22-26).
4. All Christians are to \_\_\_\_\_ responsibility for encouraging others.

D. Galatians 6:9, “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

1. Paul knew how to encourage tired Christians.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ our tendency to quit doing good because we do not see the results.
3. He knew persistence pays off.

E. Our tongues may speak death and life (James 3:9-12).

1. Life-destroying words \_\_\_\_\_ feelings, stir up anger, ignite hate and shameful feelings.
2. Life-building words \_\_\_\_\_ joy, increase character, and give hope.

F. I Thess. 4:13-18—encouraged the grieving even in times of loss.

1. “Encourage each other with these words” (I Thess. 4:18).
2. Jesus will return to earth (4:16).
3. Life lived with the Lord is lived forever (4:17).
4. Those who are alive in Christ will be united with those who died (4:17).
5. Comfort is found in the family of God, “brothers” (4:13).

### III. How are we to understand encouragement?

A. Encouragement is a \_\_\_\_\_ and a role.

1. All Christians are to assume the role as encouragers.
2. Some Christians are exceptionally gifted as encouragers.

B. Encouragement is an \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit’s work.

C. Encouragement is \_\_\_\_\_ to the life of the Church.

### IV. How does encouragement relate to evangelism?

A. Encouragers are climate-changers.

B. Encouragers \_\_\_\_\_ faith and optimism into other Christians.

C. Encouragers \_\_\_\_\_ people around their spirit of hope.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ blessings
2. \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s guidance.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ the future is in God’s hands.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ in faith
5. \_\_\_\_\_ people to Jesus.

## Small Group Activity:

Tom Barnard wrote, “The path of discouragement: Discouragement leads to Doubt leads to Defeat leads to Dismay leads to Depression leads to Destruction of a person’s future and hope.”

- What do you think of that pathway?
  
- Who needs encouraging?
  
- How do exceptional encouragers encourage others?
  
- Conduct a personal conversation audit to see what needs altering.
  
- How do people feel after they have been with you?

## Action Planning/Reporting:

The homework assignment for this module includes answering the following questions:

1. Who are the encouragers in your congregation?
  
2. How could we inspire their continuous ministry among us and in the community at large?
  
3. What resources or support would they value?