

Notes

"ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER"

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3, 2:11-12, 4:18, 5:11

April 15, 2018

Biblical Encouragement is...

Praising God's Activity in One's Life

- Previously
- Presently

Pointing to His Promises

- Of The Gospel
- Christ's Return

Encouragement requires RELATIONSHIP

COMING UP

"WORSHIP WORDS & MUTUAL SUBMISSION"

Ephesians 5:1-6:9

Passage Overview:

Probably the most well known section of Ephesians 5 is verses 22-33 which address the relationship of husbands and wives in marriage. But that very important section of scripture falls in the context of the chapters 4-6; especially 5:15 - 6:9. These verses address relationships at many levels. What is important to note is that relationships within the Christian community cannot be divorced from our relationship with God. The church is His body. Our interactions with each other are integrally connected to our fellowship with Him.

Therefore, before addressing specific relationships in the contexts of marriage, family and work, the Spirit speaks about our worship and fellowship with God and our interactions with one another. The filling and control of the Spirit impacts both horizontal and vertical relationships. This is reflected grammatically in what is called a chiasmic structure in verses 19-21. "A" represents horizontal relationships with one another, while "B" represents the vertical relationship with God.

- A) addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
 - B) singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,
 - B) giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 - A) submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

We speak to one another with scripture guided words that encourage, admonish, rebuke, and spur one another on. At the same time, we worship God with our hearts through singing and praise that is inspired and imbued with scripture. We give thanks to God while we mutually submit to one another. Our hearts attitude towards God is reflected in our mutual care and concern for one another.

We are His body. Our worship of Him impacts our relationships. And our relationships with one another impact our worship.

Reading for Next Week: Ephesians 5:1 – 6:9