

Participating in a Encouraging Church

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Therefore encourage each other with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:18

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

*We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.
1 Thessalonians 1:2*

*We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Thessalonians 1:3*

Qualities of an Encouraging Church

**1. An encouraging church is one where the _____
is preached.**

For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

*the wages us in his death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Romans 6:23*

*Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
Acts 2:38*

understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

Romans 13:11

*Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. **1 Corinthians 15:1***

*By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. **1 Corinthians 15:2***

*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures **1 Corinthians 15:3***

*“The days are coming,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “when I will send a famine through the land—not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord. **Amos 8:11***

*Men will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the Lord, but they will not find it. **Amos 8:12***

*Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” **Matthew 4:4***

Paul’s definition of good preaching is where the Gospel is preached—

- **In the power of the _____**

because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

1 Thessalonians 1:5

*When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **1 Corinthians 2:1-2***

I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.

1 Corinthians 2:3-5

- **With deep _____**

You know how we lived among you for your sake. 1 Thessalonians 1:5b

- **Backed up by a life of _____**

2. An encouraging church is one where the Gospel is received with joy. *Qualities of an Encouraging Church.*

You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 1:6

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:25

Suggestions for receiving the message with joy to be an encouragement for other people.

- **Come with a spirit of _____**

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
—Matthew 5:6*

- **Bring your _____ and take notes**

- **Listen attentively and respond**

- **Recognize the different moods in a _____**

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. Psalm 47:1

Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. Ecclesiastes 5:1

Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. Ecclesiastes 5:2

- **P _____ during the invitation**

Invitational Prayer, that God would give:

- F _____ to believe Jesus lived a perfect life and died for our sin
- S _____ over how our sin has separated us from God's holiness
- B _____ to commit our lives to serve God

Invitational Prayer

- Pray for unbelievers
- Pray for Christians to make deeper _____ commitments
- Pray for the preacher and _____

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Psalm 122:1

you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 1:6

3. An encouraging church is one where the Gospel is

_____ **with success.** *Qualities of an Encouraging Church.*

And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. 1 Thessalonians 1:7-8

Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 1 Thessalonians 1:9

"These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here,
Acts 17:6

Key: Gospel, Holy Spirit, conviction, integrity, anticipation, Bible, service, Pray, Faith, Sorrow, Boldness spiritual, yourself shared