

The Gift Of Encouragement

George M. Adams wrote, "Encouragement is oxygen to the soul." One of the most powerful remarks one person can share with another is encouragement. Encouragement can stop a suicide, divorce, or countless other tragedies. A word of encouragement can heal someone who is broken and wounded. It can give someone the courage to keep trying. Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:14, *"Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men."*

Our Lord is a great example of encouragement. Hebrews 2:18 says, *"For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."* Our world is full of negative, bitter, uncaring people who cannot say anything good about anyone or anything. The children of God should be a radiant contrast to the people of the world. We should bubble over with the joy of being a Christian (Philippians 4:4). We should find it easy to be positive and uplifting. Are you an encouragement to those around you? Please do not let someone die from neglect and lack of spiritual encouragement. Nothing succeeds like encouragement!

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