



*Let Us Not  
Grow Weary  
in Encouraging  
One Another*

# *A little about me...*



- Teacher after homeschooling for 9 years
- Military wife for 17 years
- Moved 9 times since I've been married
- Cancer Survivor

*I guess you could say I've needed a lot  
of encouragement.*

# What is Encouragement?



- Let's brainstorm ideas!
- What kids think encouragement means
- According to Vine's, encouragement can mean:
  - to urge forward or persuade
  - counsel or advise
  - to comfort
  - to come to one's aid

# What is Encouragement?



- Share with a neighbor one way you've been encouraged.
- Turn to another neighbor and share with them one way you've encouraged others.
- Would anyone like to share an idea with the group?

# What does the Bible say about encouragement?



- First of all, the Bible tells us we should encourage each other.
- I Thessalonians 5:11 says  
“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”

# *Why do we need to encourage each other?*



- John 16:33
  - Jesus tells us we will have troubles
- John 15:18-21
  - People will hate us
- Ephesians 6:12, 1 Peter 5:8
  - We are in a battle

# *What does encouragement do for us?*



- John 13:34-35
  - Encouragement makes it easier for us to love as Jesus loved
- Romans 15:4
  - Encouragement gives hope
- Hebrews 12:5
  - Encouragement helps us through discipline/testing
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
  - Encouragement nurtures patience and kindness

# *How can we encourage each other?*



- Romans 15:4
  - Through scripture
- Philippians 2:3-4
  - Looking towards their interests
- Acts 20:1
  - Encouraging disciples



# *Who needs encouragement?*



- 1 Thessalonians 5:14
  - The fainthearted
- 1 Timothy 5:1-2
  - Old and young men and women
- 1 Kings 19:3-10
  - Those who appear strong

# *Antonym of Encourage: Discourage*



- Can you think of a time when you have been discouraged?
- How can we make sure we are not discouraging others?

# *Dangers involved in encouragement*



- Easy to make excuses
  - “Other people have this... I’m not needed.”
  - “I’m not close to that person so it’s not my responsibility.”
  - “I’m not old enough to encourage someone.”

# *Dangers involved in encouragement*



- Easy to make excuses
  - “Other people have this... I’m not needed.”
  - “I’m not close to that person so it’s not my responsibility.”
  - “I’m not old enough to encourage someone.”
- Other thoughts/excuses you can think of?
- The truth is... someone else doesn’t always have this. It doesn’t matter if you are close, and it doesn’t matter how old you are. You may be the only one who can fill that need.

# Practical Examples



- Cards and Cupcakes
- Teaching Bible class
- Helping during chemotherapy
- Your ideas?
- What is your favorite verse?
- Can you think of someone you can encourage right now?