

ONE ANOTHER: ENCOURAGING

Use the following notes in your Growth Group or for further personal study of today's message. We hope these will enrich and deepen your walk as you study God's Word.

GETTING STARTED:

1. Share five different ways you can encourage others such as family, friends, neighbors, co-workers.
2. Describe how the encouragement of someone in your life put courage in you to persevere through a difficult time.

DIGGING DEEPER:

3. The writer of Hebrews makes it clear that we all have the propensity for sin and unbelief which results in a hardened heart toward God. He references Israel (Read: *Exodus 17, Numbers 14*). How did the people of Israel harden their hearts? With what results?
4. Personally, what does it mean to turn away from the living God? Who or what helped you during a rebellious time to turn you back to God (*Hebrews 3:12; Hebrews 12:3-11*)?
5. What role does the Christian community (in church & growth groups) play in keeping us true to God (*Hebrews 3:13: 10:24-25*)? What adjustments (time, schedule, overcoming fears, etc.) do you need to make so that gathering together in church and in a growth group is a priority?
6. Why does *Hebrews 3* emphasize the word 'Today' (*Hebrews 3:14-15*)? Verse 15 quotes *Psalms 95*—read it and let this encourage you to deepen your obedience and worship before God.

APPLICATION:

7. If you want to be vibrant in your faith you need other Christians in your life to encourage you. Share your next step to develop encouraging relationships that will help you grow in Christ (Join a growth group in the fall, commit to regular church attendance, reach out and encourage someone, etc.).

"ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER"

3/8 in the series One Another

July 27, 2014 • Pastor Carl Lodico • *Hebrews 3:12-15; 10:24-25*

Truett Cathy (founder of Chic-fil-A) once said, "How do you identify someone who needs encouragement? Answer: That person is breathing." One of the most powerful aspects of one another living is the context it provides for giving and receiving encouragement. We live in a world that is increasingly fragmented, isolated and frankly, discouraging. The writer of Hebrews teaches us that we all have a great need for encouragers!

1. **We all need the transforming influence of one anothering** (*Hebrews 3:12*). Watch out! We all have the propensity for sin and unbelief that can lead us down a destructive path away from God.
2. **Warning & Admonition: Encourage one another away from sin and to outbursts of love and good deeds** (*Hebrews 3:13, 10:24*)! The reality is that within each of us there is a contest between perseverance and surrender; a contest that even the smallest measure of encouragement can help push us into victory.
3. **As long as it is called Today:** (*Hebrews 3:14-15; 10:25*). Don't procrastinate, don't neglect gathering, don't stop encouraging one another—**the stakes are too high!**

APPLICATION

Encourage one another in some way every day, so that none of us become hardened by sin's deceitfulness but instead become all that God has called us to be.

NEXT WEEK 4/8 • Youth Sunday
by Pastor Jon Gott