

# Home Group Questions

the week of 5/6/2018

Romans 16:1-16

## POWER OF ENCOURAGEMENT

### GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued his series on the book of Romans. This week's study focused on Paul's desire to thank and greet many people who had an impact in his ministry and sacrificed for the kingdom of God.

### LOOKING IN THE WORD...

**1. Read Romans 16:1-16. Knowing that Paul spends 16 verses highlighting these heroes of the faith, what does that say about the importance of encouragement and an attitude of gratitude towards others? What are some things that Paul says here that jump out at you about the people that he highlights? Discuss people in your life that had an impact in your life by standing with you, praying for you, giving to you, and speaking encouraging words into your life. What do you think keeps people from being individuals that truly encourage one another?**

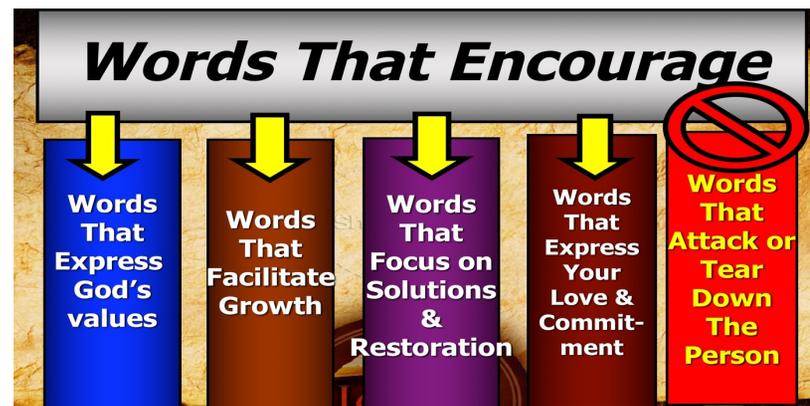
**2. Hebrews 3:13;10:24-25** Talk about these verses. What are the principles of encouragement found in these verses? How does encouragement in your life tie into your involvement in the church? What does that say about the attitudes we should have when we come to church every week and relate to others? What kind of encouragement do you find most edifying...for example, if someone asked you "What are the "do's" and "don't's" of encouragement...what would you say?

**3. A pastor by the name of Alan Redpath** formed a "mutual encouragement" fellowship at a time of stress in one of his pastorates. The members subscribed to a simple formula applied before speaking of any person or subject that was perhaps controversial.

- T - Is it true?
- H - Is it helpful?
- I - Is it inspiring?
- N - Is it necessary?
- K - Is it kind?

If what we are about to say does not pass these tests, we should keep our mouth shut. One of their motto's became... "If you want to change people without giving offense or arousing resentment, use encouragement." Discuss these principles. How would the faithful application of these principles change the church, the world, and our own personal lives?

**3. Here's a diagram** that Pastor Mel shared with us in his sermon that highlights what encouragement looks like. What makes following this diagram so difficult? Why do you think so many people miss out on the blessing of being an encourager?



### MOVING FORWARD...

Share encouragement with one another. How has the home group and people in it blessed your life? Pray for one another as you close.