

Life Group Discussion Guide

Message: "Encourage One Another"

Guest Speaker: Tracy Thomas, Lincoln Christian Seminary

Dates: February 23-24, 2019

Message Notes

Introduction: That's good news!

Encourage one another...because TODAY is here!

Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ. **Hebrews 3:12–14 (NLT)**

So God set another time for entering his rest, and that time is today. God announced this through David much later in the words already quoted: "Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts." **Hebrews 4:7 (NLT)**

This is the day the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. **Psalms 118:24 (NLT)**

Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. **Lamentations 3:23 (NLT)**

For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. **Psalms 51:3 (NLT)**

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today." **Matthew 6:33–34 (NLT)**

Encourage one another...because THE DAY is coming!

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24–25 (NLT)**

Their disagreement was so sharp that they separated. Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus. Paul chose Silas, and as he left, the believers entrusted him to the Lord's gracious care. **Acts 15:39–40 (NLT)**

Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. **Galatians 3:1 (NLT)**

But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. **John 16:7 (NLT)**

For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. **1 Thessalonians 5:9–11 (NLT)**

Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. **Ephesians 4:14–16 (NLT)**

Conclusion

And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. So encourage each other with these words. **1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 (NLT)**

For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation. **2 Corinthians 6:2 (NLT)**



Leading People into a Growing
Relationship with Jesus Christ!

Four Questions

LEARN: *What am I learning? What am I curious about? What questions do I have?*

LIVE: *What thoughts/habits/desires do I need to adopt or surrender
so I can experience the abundant life Jesus gives?*



Leading People into a Growing
Relationship with Jesus Christ!

LOVE: *How will this empower me to love God (with all my heart, soul, mind and strength),
love myself (as Jesus loves me), and love my neighbor (as I love myself)?*

LEAD: *How is God calling me to lead people into
a growing relationship with Jesus Christ?*