

October 21, 2018
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
THE TONGUE : What To Do With What You've Herd
Episode 3 -The Word Of Encouragement
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Acts 15:32 *And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words.*

Acts 9:27 *And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.*

Deuteronomy 1:38 *Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you, he shall enter. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.*

Deuteronomy 3:28 *But charge Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him, for he shall go over at the head of this people, and he shall put them in possession of the land that you shall see.*

Proverbs 15:4 *The soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit.*

Colossians 3:21 *Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.*

Proverbs 10:11 *The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.*

Proverbs 10:21 *The lips of the righteous feed many, But fools die for lack of wisdom.*

ENCOURAGEMENT MEANS TO: [encourage](#), [inspirit](#), [hearten](#), [embolden](#), to fill with courage or strength of purpose. [Encourage](#) suggests the raising of one's confidence especially by an external agency. To [inspirit](#), to instill life, energy, courage, or vigor into something.

1. Encouragement is fuel for the kingdom.
2. Encouragement drives destiny.
3. Encouragement allows you to live in the supernatural.

Encouragement is fuel for the kingdom.

- Some form of the word *encourage* is used 8 times in the Book of Acts. This is twice as many as any other book of the bible and □ of the scriptures entire use of the word.
 - **Acts 15:32** *And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words.*
- The book of Acts also introduces us to a key figure name Barnabas (Meaning son of encouragement)

- **Paul needed a Barnabas:**
 - **Acts 9:27** *And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.*

Encouragement drives destiny

- **The Scripture is full of great stories of destiny that were written through words of encouragement.**
 - **Esther: Esther 4:14** *“For such a time as this.”*
 - **Peter: Matt 16:18** *“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”*
 - **Joshua: Deut 3:38** *But charge Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him, for he shall go over at the head of this people, and he shall put them in possession of the land that you shall see.*

In each of these stories we see how words were used to alter individual and corporate destiny, but words can also destroy.

- **Proverbs 15:4** *The soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit.*
- **Colossians 3:21** *Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.*
 - *Words, rooted in right actions can save childhood, can save a marriage, can save a family, can save a life.*

Encouragement allows us to traverse the supernatural.

- We often have too high a bar for what we consider a miracle.
- The effect and influence of a good word in season is eternal.
 - **Proverbs 10:11a** *The mouth of the righteous is a well of life.*
 - **Proverbs 10:21a** *The lips of the righteous feed many.*
 - **Proverbs 15:23** *A person finds joy in giving an apt reply--and how good is a timely word!*

Food for the journey: *Use these questions and challenges to go deeper in one of our community group discussions or in personal reflection.*

- The book of Acts uses some form of the word encouragement more than any other book in the bible. Why do you think that might be?
- Encouragement fuels kingdom growth. What are some practical ways this actually happens?
- Pastor Adam says that encouragement allows you to live in the supernatural. Why?
- The sermon gave examples of biblical figures who moved into destiny after words of encouragement. Where have you see this happen in your life?
- Make it a point to encourage 5 people per day for 21 days and report back what happens.