

Community & Christian fellowship Week 4

'Encouraging one another' Study Guide

1. 'Without the gift of encouragement we die. Bereft of it, life becomes unbearable and full of misery.' R Parker, *The Wild Spirit*. Do you agree?
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 5: 10-11 and Hebrews 10, 24-25. What reasons does Paul/the writer of Hebrews give for why we should encourage each other?
3. What can we learn from the examples of Jesus encouraging others: Zacchaeus (Luke 19, 1-10), the man he healed in the Gerasenes (Mark 5, 18-20) and Peter (John, 21:15-19)?
4. Read Job 2, 11-13. The high point of the encouragement Job received from his friends was when they said nothing. Can you point to examples when this has been true for you? Why do we find this hard?
5. "'You got this' is a powerful, versatile, and popular phrase for encouragement, reinforcing confidence in someone facing challenges." AI overview. What are the shortcomings of 'you got this' as our default encouragement? What might we say instead?
6. Read Acts 9:26-28, Acts 11:19-26 and Acts 15:36-41. What can we learn from the examples of Barnabas encouraging others?
7. Whose encouragement has played a key role in your faith journey? Who is God putting on your heart to encourage this week? What step are you going to take?