

WORD 2022

Fathers

Atmosphere – Awareness - Anticipation

Mothers

Investment – Involvement - Interaction

Look Around!

You

ATMOSPHERE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Atmosphere – Awareness – Anticipation

- A surrounding influence or environment (Webster Dictionary)
- Do we pray and believe for something beyond the ordinary when we are together as a family?

“You Ugly” Song

People just seemed crushed by “Life”

God didn't intend for us to face life alone and isolated!

- Genesis 2:18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." NLT
- Principal – It is not good for the man to be alone!

Hebrews 10:23-25 **Let us** go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. **Let us** hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. 24 **Let us** think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. 25 **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. NLT

The Need for Encouragement

- Christianity is about relationships - our relationship with God, and our relationship with others.
- **Matthew 22:37-40** Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." NLT
- **John 13:34-35** So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." NLT
- **I Thessalonians 5:11** So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. NLT
- Hang in there. DON'T GIVE UP!!!

The Who and How of Encouragement

- There are 4 **LET US**
 - Let us draw near or go right into the presence of God.
 - Let us hold fast or tight to the hope we affirm.
 - Let us consider or think of ways, to stir up or motivate one another to acts of love and good works.
 - Let us not neglect our meeting together.
- **US Loneliness Statistics and Data 2021**
 - **61%** of Americans felt lonely in 2019. In 2018, that number was 54%.^[1] (US, Cigna, 2020)
 - **52%** sometimes or always felt alone in 2019. In 2018, that number was 46%.^[1] (US, Cigna, 2020)
 - **47%** sometimes or always felt that their relationships were not meaningful in 2019. In 2018, that number was 43%.^[1] (US, Cigna, 2020)
 - **21%** have no close friends.^[2] (US, YouGov, 2019)
 - **58%** said they sometimes or always felt like no one knew them well in 2019. In 2018, that number was 54%.^[1] (US, Cigna, 2020)
 - **49%** sometimes or always felt as though they lack companionship in 2019. In 2018, that number was 43%.^[1] (US, Cigna, 2020)
 - **53%** say it's difficult to make friends because they are shy.^[2] (US, YouGov, 2019)

Not So Social Media: How Social Media Increases Loneliness

- Are you aware of the negative effects of social media? Studies suggest a link between time spent using social media and loneliness? Article by: [Sherry Amatenstein, LCSW](#)

We need to consider how we encourage one another!

We all want the benefit of encouragement

Romans 12:8 If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. NLT

