



GRACE

COMMUNITY CHURCH

ENCOURAGEMENT THAT ENCOURAGES

TRUE



Studies in 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Congrats
Grace
Grads



“I’ve missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I’ve lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I’ve been trusted to take the game-winning shot and missed. I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.”



Encouragement

Emboldening others in face of a challenge or to reach their full potential



2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, NIV

¹³ But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:14, NIV

¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17, NIV

¹⁶ May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

- ▶ **See who people are in God's eyes.**
Encourage accordingly.
- ▶ **See what people need from God's resources.** *Encourage accordingly.*
- ▶ **See what God only can do for people.**
Encourage accordingly.

The **dark side** of pleading ... —some will **not** believe

¹⁰ They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹ For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie ¹² and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

2 Thessalonians 2, NIV

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.



Jesus saw **people** deeply....
How do you see **people**?

“heretic, half-breed, immoral, woman”
hiding, thirsty, worthwhile, salvageable

“sell-out, shorty, sinner”
*eager, tender, repentant,
true child of Abraham*

“driven, self-righteous, murderer, terrorist”
servant, messenger, apostle, brother

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Loved one in God's family**

Brothers and sisters loved by the Lord.

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Loved one in God's family**

Brothers and sisters loved by the Lord.

▶ **Wanted by God**

God chose you to be saved.

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Loved one in God's family**

Brothers and sisters loved by the Lord.

▶ **Wanted by God**

God chose you to be saved.

▶ **First of many more to come**

Firstfruits / from the beginning

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Spirit cleansed**

the sanctifying work of the Spirit.

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Spirit cleansed**

the sanctifying work of the Spirit.

▶ **Truth believers**

Through ... belief in the truth.

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Spirit cleansed**

the sanctifying work of the Spirit.

▶ **Truth believers**

Through ... belief in the truth.

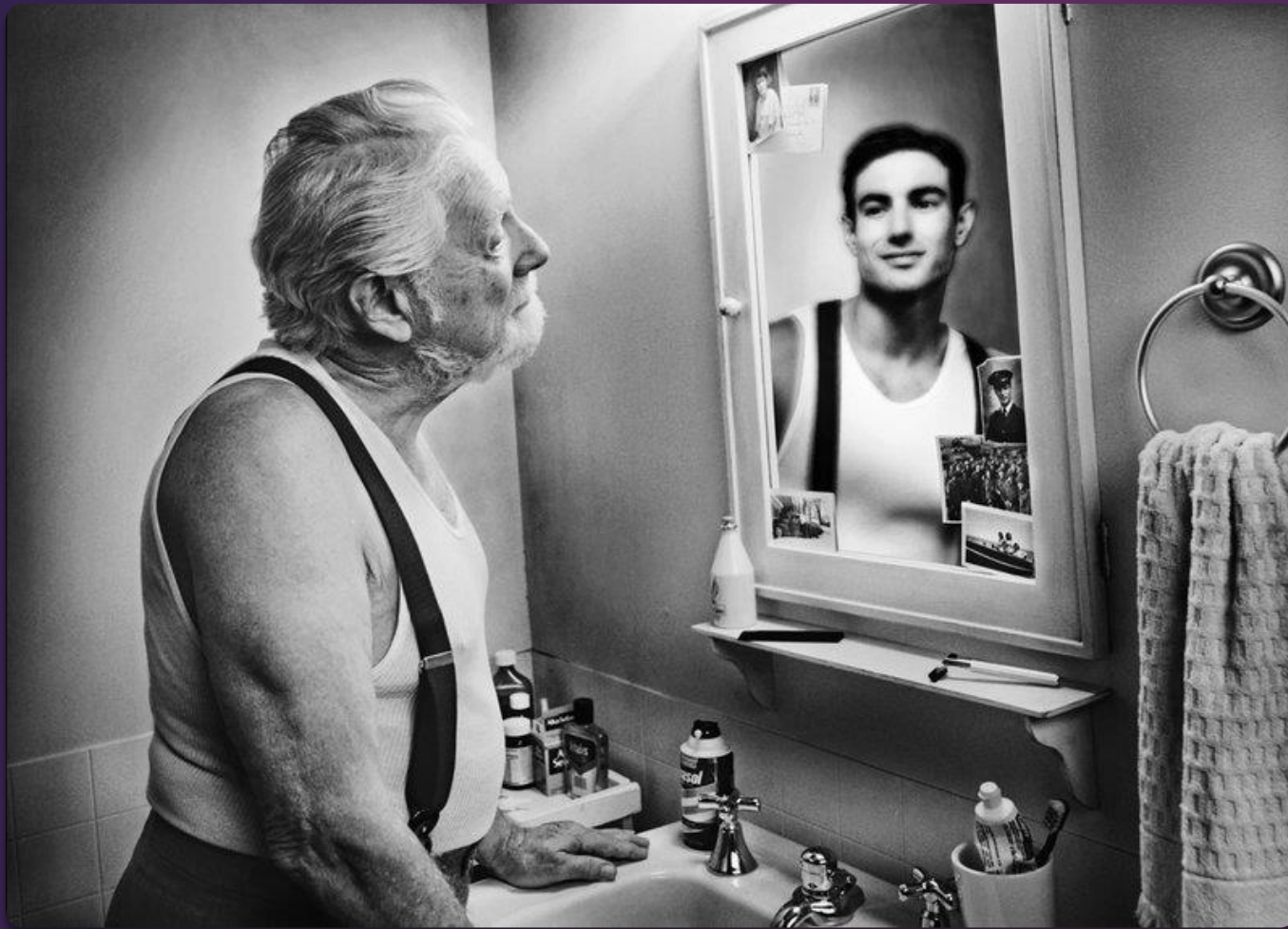
▶ **Called through the gospel**

He called you to this through our gospel.

See who people are in God's eyes.
Encourage accordingly.

▶ **Glory sharers**

share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.



We are
who God
says
we are

Isaiah 8:12; 26:3-4, NIV

***Do not fear what they fear, and do not
dread it....***

***You will keep in perfect peace those
whose minds are steadfast,
because they trust in you.***

See what people need from God's resources. *Encourage accordingly.*

▶ People need **relationships**.

See what people need from God's resources. *Encourage accordingly.*

- ▶ People need **relationships**.
- ▶ People need **truth**.

Matthew 7:24-25, NIV

*Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because **it had its foundation on the rock.***

John 16:12-13, NIV

*“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of **truth**, comes, he will guide you into all the **truth**.”*

2 Thessalonians 2:14, NIV

¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

From the old Anglican catechism ...

BLESSED LORD, who hast caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise **hear** them, **read**, **mark**, **learn**, and inwardly **digest** them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ.

The Psychology of Encouragement: Theory, Research, and Applications Ψ

Y. Joel Wong¹

Abstract

Despite the frequent use of encouragement in everyday social life, this understudied topic in positive psychology and its ambiguity in

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See what people need from God's resources. *Encourage accordingly.*

- ▶ People need **relationships**.
- ▶ People need **truth**.
- ▶ People need to be **born again**.

Matthew 13:52, NIV

“Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

Growing in
CHRIST
Series



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FOLLOW-UP COURSE FOR
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ASSURANCE



INCLUDES
LESSONS ON
CHRISTIAN
LIVING



See what God only can do for
people. *Encourage accordingly.*

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17, NIV

¹⁶ May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

See what God only can do for people. *Encourage accordingly.*

- ▶ He gives us **eternal encouragement**

See what God only can do for people. *Encourage accordingly.*

- ▶ He gives us **eternal encouragement**
- ▶ He gives us **good hope.**

Theognis of Megara, 6th Century BC on **Hope**

Best of all for mortals is never to have
been born, but for those who have
been born to die as soon as possible.

See what God only can do for people. *Encourage accordingly.*

- ▶ He gives us **eternal encouragement**
- ▶ He gives us **good hope.**
- ▶ He **encourages our hearts.**
- ▶ He **strengthens our actions and our words.**





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