



RCC Phoenix – 8.2.20 – (Love Series: Week 5) Love Encourages

Today we're going to look at love and the role it plays in _____.

As we continue to understand what Scripture tells us about love, the _____ of our sin will be unloaded at the cross, the _____ of un-forgiveness will be cut away from our conscious and the _____ of our hearts will become lighter.

One Bible name we may not realize is actually a nickname is Barnabas.

Acts of the Apostles 4:36 NLT

“For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means “Son of Encouragement”). He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus.”

Anyone who has a nickname obviously did something to _____ it.

Joseph obviously did something to be nicknamed Barnabas and Scripture gives us insight to why he was given that nickname. Joseph was an _____.

The Word “Encouragement” in the Bible’s original language is Paraklesis

Paraklesis Definition:

- Those we call near or summon (esp. for help)
- Importation (the introduction of an idea from a different place or perspective)
- Exhortation, admonition, urge, encouragement, solace, console
- That which affords comfort or refreshment
- Conciliatory, powerful exhorting discourse or stirring address

If we were to get a nickname of our most _____ characteristic, what would our nickname be?

Let’s look at 3 characteristics of love from 1 Corinthians 13 that point to Encouragement.

1. Love Rejoices with the _____: (Aletheia)

Aletheia Definition:

- What is true in any matter under consideration, in reality, in fact.
- What is true in things pertaining to God and the duties of man, moral and religious truth.
- The truth taught in Christianity, respecting God & the execution of His purposes through Christ.

This is exemplified to us in Heaven.

Heaven rejoiced on the day you were born again.

Luke 15:8-10 NLT

“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Won’t she light a lamp and sweep the entire house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and neighbors and say, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found my lost coin.’ In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God’s angels when even one sinner repents.”

You should be encouraged that not only Jesus, (the Way, the Truth & the Life) saw fit to die for you and save you from the _____ of your sin.

You should also be encouraged that the Angels of Heaven _____ when you came to Christ.

We also see this love of truth and how it encourages others in the early church.

People are being saved in Syria, Antioch and Cilicia. They are forming a new body of new believers in Christ but are approached by some Jewish teachers and told they now have to follow the law of Moses and be circumcised.

The disciples get together and come to a conclusion..

Acts of the Apostles 15:23-32 NLT

“This is the letter they took with them: “This letter is from the apostles and elders, your brothers in Jerusalem. It is written to the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia. Greetings! “We understand that some men from here have troubled you and upset you with their teaching, but we did not send them! So we decided, having come to complete agreement, to send you official representatives, along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are sending Judas and Silas to confirm what we have decided concerning your question. “For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay no greater burden on you than these few requirements: You must abstain from eating food offered to idols, from consuming blood or the meat of strangled animals, and from sexual immorality. If you do this, you will do well. Farewell.” The messengers went at once to Antioch, where they called a general meeting of the believers and delivered the letter. *And there was great joy throughout the church that day as they read this encouraging message.* Then Judas and Silas, both being prophets, spoke at length to the believers, encouraging and strengthening their faith.”

It is important for us as believers in Christ to know Scripture _____.

We need to learn from our pastors and Biblical teachers but we do not need to use our weekly gathering as the only time we read, meditate on or discuss _____.

When we know the _____ we have in Christ and use it to bring the _____ to people, they are encouraged.

How can we be encouragement to others? By importation (bringing the Biblical perspective instead of fleshly advice), _____ those who are hurting and being a _____ comfort to everyone through the truth of the Gospel.

2. Love _____ All Things: (Pisteuo)

Pisteuo Definition:

- Think to be true, to credit
- Place confidence in the thing or the one who is believed
- To entrust with something

We have entrusted our lives and _____ future to Jesus.

We trust in Jesus, His sacrifice, His Word and His love because He is good, He has _____ lied and He is all powerful.

We may not realize that He has entrusted _____ with something.

2 Corinthians 5:18-21 NLT

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ."

The design of Christ for His Church is for us to be the _____ of Jesus to a dark world.

We have been entrusted with the responsibility to be Christ's _____, making an appeal to the lost people of the world to Come back to God.

We are encouraged to live **H**_____. **O**_____. **T**_____.

But when we truly love someone, we _____ what they say and have a belief in them.

Ravi Zacharias Wedding Story:

"You are giving each other the highest _____ today. You are taking each other at their word."

3. Love _____ All Things: (Elpizo)

Elpizo Definition:

- Hopefully trust in or to wait for salvation with joy and full confidence

We have hope, joy & full confidence that our Lord has the _____ word in every life scenario.

In _____, He has the final word.

In struggle, He has the final word.

In joyous times, He has the final word.

In victory, He has the final word.

In defeat, He has the final word.

Even in _____, He has the final word.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NLT

“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 5:9-11 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.”

*Encouraging Scriptures for Believers:***Psalm 31:23 ESV**

“Love the Lord, all you his saints! The Lord preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.”

Psalms 34:17-18 NLT

“The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.”

Psalms 138:3 NASB

“On the day I called, You answered me; You made me bold with strength in my soul.”

Luke 18:27 NLT

“He (Jesus) replied, “What is impossible for people is possible with God.””

Hebrews 10:23 NASB

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;”

Romans 10:13 NLT

“For Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

God Almighty is Love and His Spirit encourages us. The life of the Believer represents God’s love to others, especially those of the faith.

Therefore, let us encourage other believers with the truth of God’s Word, His power & be a refreshing comfort in times of struggle. Let us encourage the lost to see a Godly perspective & submit their life to the Lord. Let us be focused on encouraging others and celebrating the truth of God’s miraculous and boundless love!

Why? Because Love _____.