

FOCUS
togetherness

-001.tiff



-002.tiff

“to-gather-ness” vs. togetherness

-003.tiff

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you.

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²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
—1 Thessalonians 5:1-2 ESV

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⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness...

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⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath,

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but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him.

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¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
—1 Thessalonians 5:4-5, 8-11 ESV

-009.tiff

Encourage = one called to come alongside

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¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive,

-011.tiff

because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.—John 14:16-18

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²⁶But the **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.—John 14:26

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Build Up = to raise up, mend or edify

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“Encouragement is the gift of God to us and is a work of grace through us in the life of others.”

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**B
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D** How can we practice edification and encouragement?
Begin with Scripture and Prayer

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²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

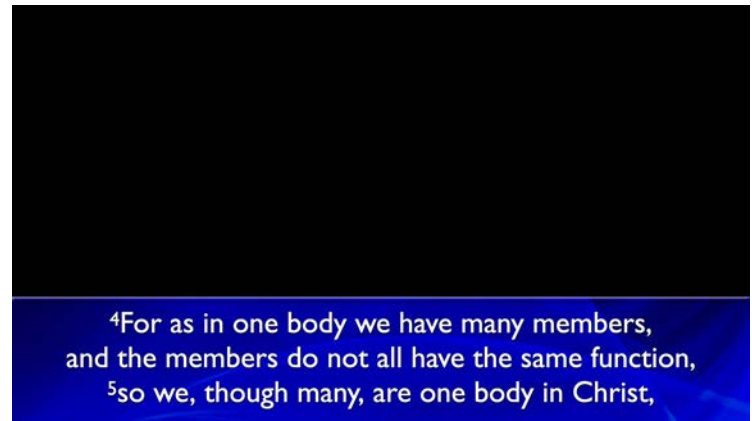
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²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.—Jude 20-21 ESV

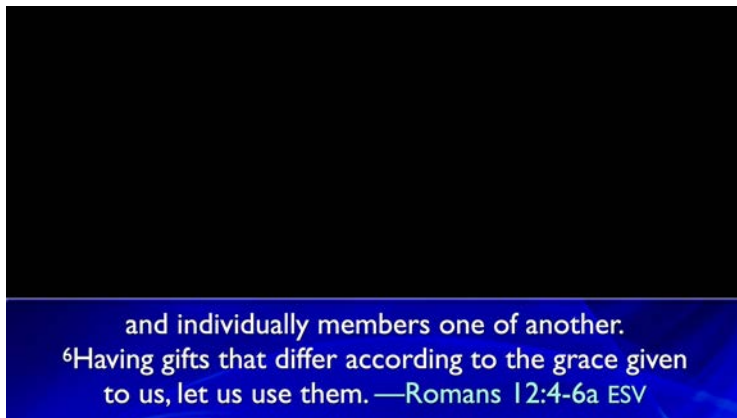
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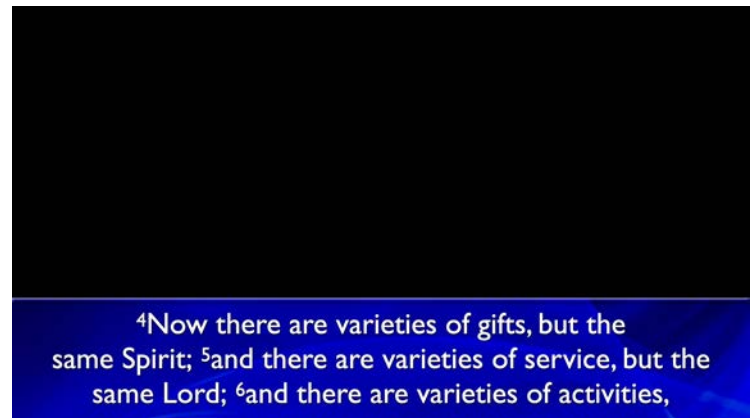
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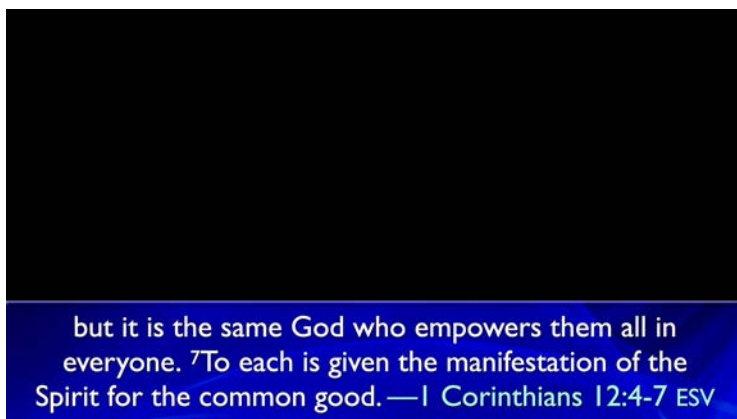
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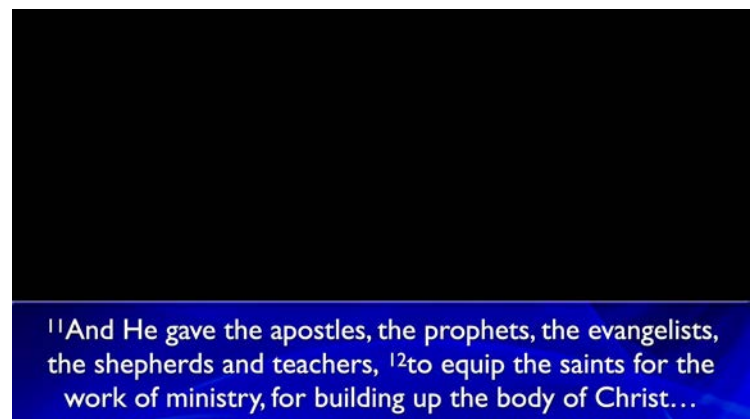
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¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

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¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ. —Ephesians 4:11-12, 14-15 ESV

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**B
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D** How can we practice edification and encouragement?
Influence Others with Good Words

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Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. —Ephesians 4:29 ESV

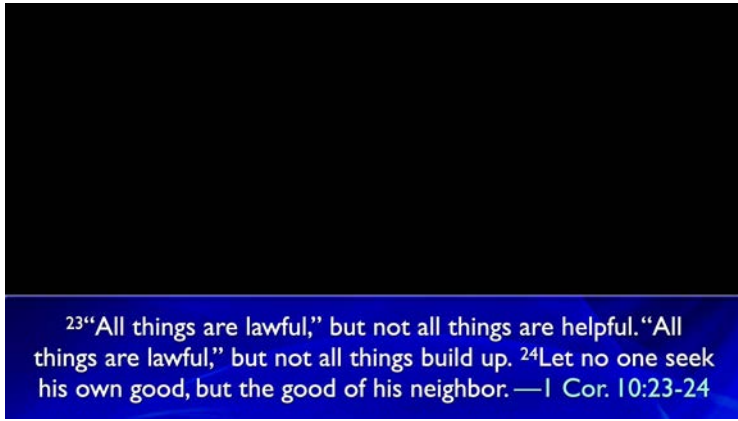
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A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
—Proverbs 15:4 ESV

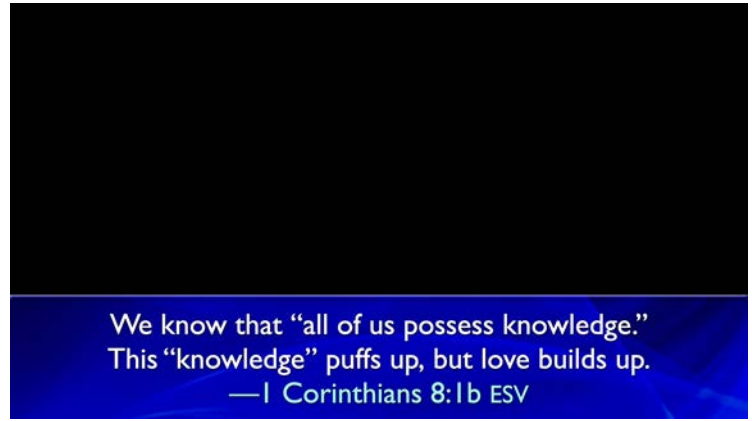
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**B
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D** How can we practice edification and encouragement?
Limit Your Freedom as an Expression of Love

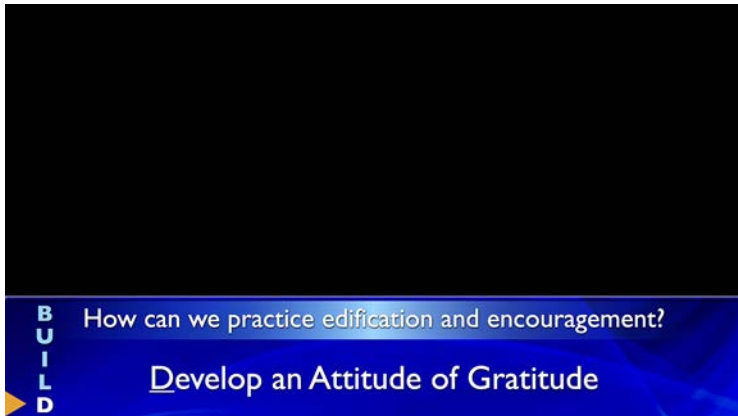
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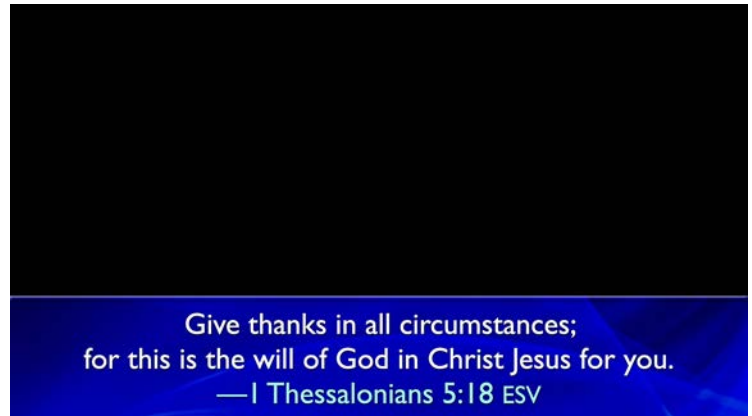
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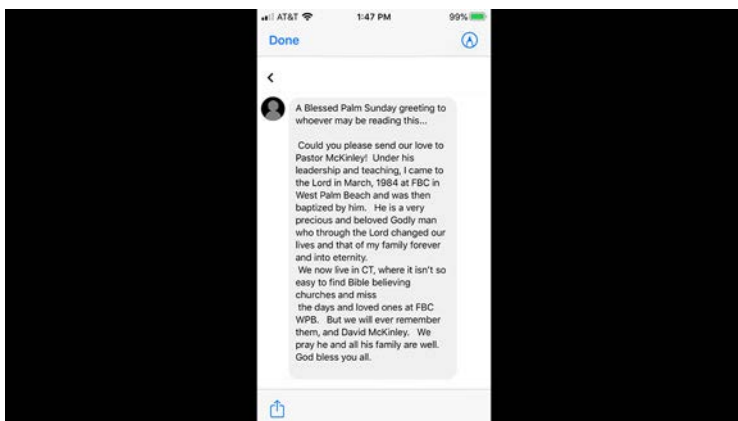
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