

ONE
ANOTHER
THE PATH OF COMMUNITY

One Another: The Path Of Community | Encourage One Another
(Hebrews 3:7-19)

1. Share your experience of a time when a word of encouragement has enabled you to keep going when you were tempted to give up.
2. Do you know anyone that you would say specifically has the gift of encouragement? What qualities and characteristics mark them out as having this gift? Why do you think this is a gift of the Spirit?
3. Have a look at Acts 4:36 and 9:27, in what ways did Barnabas demonstrate the reason for his name? What other ways have you experienced or shown encouragement?

Read Hebrews 3:1-19

4. This passage refers to the events in Numbers. Have a look at Numbers 13 & 14 and discuss the story. Do you sympathise with the Israelites? Have you ever been in a situation where you have doubted? Why does the writer to the Hebrews use this story in the way he does?
5. Twice the writer uses the word **IF** (v6 & v14). How do we hold in tension the truth that we are saved with the call to persevere in our faith?
6. What does it mean for you to 'share in Christ' v14? How can we use this knowledge to persevere and help us in the hard times and encourage others when they are struggling?
7. The writer to the Hebrews speaks of 'holding on to our original calling until the very end' and also of entering God's rest. What do they mean by 'enter God's rest'? Why is this an encouragement to the readers not to give up?
8. What is at stake if we do not encourage one another? Are you open to others encouraging you to persevere or to remind you of truth or gently challenge you if necessary? Would you be willing to encourage others in this way? What might hinder you from approaching someone you were concerned for?
9. Have a look at some or all these verses and discuss what tools they give us to encourage one another well. 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 14, Galatians 6:1, Hebrews 10:23,24, Ephesians 4:29.
10. Why not pray for the opportunity to positively encourage a brother or sister in the church this week.