

# 2025 Theme: Exhort One Another

Text: Hebrews 10:25

Date: 1-19-25

## 2025 Theme: Consider and Exhort One Another

### II. Exhort One Another (Heb. 10:25).

This word *exhort* (Greek: *parakaleo*) means *to encourage, to console, to call for, to call to aid, to urge, to implore, to comfort, to ask or request earnestly.*

#### A. Exhorting one another to spiritual growth (I Thess. 4:1)

##### **\*\*Accountability**

- General accountability is responding to another person in the realm of concerns, explanations, or answers.
- Accountability cannot happen when a person thinks they are better than the other person.
- Accountability happens when true care is shown for the spiritual needs of another. Pride kills accountability because it causes distrust and disharmony.
- Spiritual accountability is holding each other to God's standard while encouraging growth through teachability.
- Spiritual accountability is praying for one another's needs, which means you need to know some of those needs.
- Spiritual accountability is being willing to ask tough questions in kindness and compassion with the desire for both parties' growth.
- Spiritual accountability is not one sided, nor is it one upping another person.

A few examples: Bible reading, prayer, praise, serving opportunities, help in overcoming sinful habits, spurring on to a life of \_\_\_\_\_.

##### **\*\*Fruitfulness**

- Encouraging one another to a life of spiritual fruitfulness.
- Encouraging in use of time
- Encouraging in witnessing opportunities.

Illustration: How was your week? can be turned into, How was your week and in what way(s) were you spiritually fruitful?

#### B. Exhorting one another to love each other (I Thess. 3:12-13)

Our actions towards one another are a tangible way that we demonstrate our true love for the Lord. No one can truly love God without also loving others, especially those of the household of faith.

##### **\*\*Be a Burden bearer**

##### **\*\*Be hospitable**

- I Pet. 4:9 says "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."
- The word for *hospitality* is a compound word meaning *friend of strangers or to love strangers*. This means that the love will not be just to those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ that we know, but it will mean lending a helping hand to believers that we don't know. This could include believers we have never met, such as persecuted believers and people our missionaries are ministering to.
- This means loving those people who we don't rub shoulders with as much, who we might be turned off by, or maybe the ornery person.

- It is easy to love one that is likeable, but it is much more difficult to love the one who is unlikeable. Jesus showed His great love by loving the second group.
- Think of yourself and how you come off towards others. Make yourself hospitable.
- Even so, if a person is quiet, reclusive, left out, we must include them and love them.

**\*\*Be a “Pray-er”**

- Do you find it easy to pray for certain people? Pray for all people in our body. James 5:16 says: “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”
- This confession is to one another. This is not a need to indiscriminately confess your sins to one another and to tell everyone all about your trespasses. James is not saying that all Christians should confess all of their sins to all other Christians. This would result in pride and chaos. Sins are to be confessed to God first and foremost. He alone can forgive our sins. Rather, this should be done when we have wronged another person (Matt. 5:23-24). Our worship will not be genuinely right until we have first confessed our wrongs to others that we have sinned against. Perhaps James would be inferring that if a person sinned against the church, then that should be confessed to the whole church. Another way that this could be done is if in a counseling situation and a person needs help, he or she may confess wrongs for the purpose of growing spiritually.
- Pray for the needs of another as if it were your own closest relative or friend. That is what Jesus did for us when He lived and even as he was about to die.
- The best act of humility is prayer for it compels us to total dependence on God.