

# Summer Soul Searching

## “Connect”

July 1, 2018

### Connect with an encouraging God

**Psalm 10:17** - You, LORD, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry...

**I Samuel 30: 6 (KJV)** - And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

**Romans 15: 4, 5** - For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

**II Thessalonians 2: 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.

**II Corinthians 7: 5, 6 (NLT)** - When we arrived in Macedonia, there was no rest for us. We faced conflict from every direction, with battles on the outside and fear on the inside. <sup>6</sup> But God, who encourages those who are discouraged, encouraged us by the arrival of Titus.

### Connect with encouraging people (Even as you encourage)

#### Daily

**Hebrews 3:13** - But encourage one another daily so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

#### Intentionally

**Hebrews 10: 24, 25** - And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.

#### In Faith

**Romans 1: 12 (NLT)** - When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.

#### With Wisdom

**II Timothy 4: 2** - Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

**Titus 2:3** - Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled.

### Disconnect with discouraging people (Refraining from being a discourager)

**Proverbs 13:20** - Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

### Signs of a discourager

**Proverbs 6: 16-19** - There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: <sup>17</sup>haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup>a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, <sup>19</sup>a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

1. **Proud** (“haughty eyes”)
2. **Dishonest** (“a lying tongue”)
3. **Mean-Spirited** (“hands that shed innocent blood”)
4. & 5. **Look for trouble** (“wicked schemes, rush into evil”)
6. **Spread Gossip & Slander** (“false witness who pours out lies”)
7. **Divisive** (“stirs up conflict”)