

Ministering to other Christians

I Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you brethren

- Urge: Encourage or entreat earnestly
- Brethren: Christians in the church
- Related Verses:
 - Hebrews 3:13 **Encourage** one another **day after day** ... so that none will be **hardened by the deceitfulness of sin**

Hebrews 10:23–25

23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to **stimulate one another to love and good deeds**, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but **encouraging *one another***; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Four ways to accomplish this:

1. Admonish the unruly

- Admonish: Connotes confrontation, helping someone to see the false beliefs they have
 - Matthew 18:15 - It is to be done in private
 - Galatians 6:1 - In a spirit of gentleness
- Unruly: Idle, undisciplined life, not following orders, insubordinate (They know God's truth but refuse to obey it.)

2. Encourage the fainthearted

- Encourage: Come close to a person's side and talk with them, speak words of comfort, encourage trusting in God's Word
- Fainthearted: Moral and spiritual weakness, timid, discouraged, tired, weary

3. Help the weak

- Help: To hold on to someone and give them support
- Weak: People who lack strength or who are physically ill, those that are spiritually immature and weak in their faith

They probably do not know what God's Word says, so they are not being rebellious. They just do not know what is Biblically right.

4. Be patient with everyone

- Patient: One who is not quickly or easily provoked to emotional outburst or precipitous actions

Patience comes from loving people and allowing the Holy Spirit to produce His fruit in your life.

People that we admonish, encourage, and help will often not respond immediately.