

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

ALLELON: WEEK 2

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!

Think of a time when someone gave you an encouraging word. What did they say to you? How did it make you feel in that moment? How does it make you feel now? What does this teach us about the importance of encouragement? Why do you think encouragement can stick with a person like this?

Does encouraging others come naturally to you? Why do you think this is? In what ways does our culture make it easier for us to be people of complaint and criticism? How can encouragement be a soothing balm for people in a world like ours?

The Greek word for encouragement is tied to the same word that describes the work of the Holy Spirit. How does the Spirit encourage and strengthen us? How have you personally experienced His encouraging ministry? What would it look like for us to join the Spirit in this ministry and encourage one another in the same way?

Read I Thessalonians 4:13-18. How does the reality of Jesus' return encourage us? How can the coming of that Day help us stay focused on the hard days? What are some practical ways we can remind each other of the eternal hope we have in Christ?

Read I Thessalonians 5:4-11. Paul continues his theme of encouragement in these verses. Why is it important for us to remind one another that we belong to the light? How can we encourage one another to pursue holy living? Does this type of encouragement seem more challenging to you? Why or why not?

Make a list of the different ways people can encourage one another (encouraging words, notes, gifts, etc.). Choose two of those encouraging acts to practice this week. Who are some people who need your encouragement right now? How can you pour courage into them this week?