SHEEP AMONG WOLVES

the power of ENCOURAGEMENT

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves."
Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."
Matthew 10:16

Never minimize the power of encouragement. Encouragement is a powerful weapon—not against the enemy, but to strengthen and fortify believers. In the times we are living in where many are suffering financially, physically and emotionally, it can be hard to turn our eyes and attention toward others. While most of us are just trying to survive and take care of our own families, we can lose sight of helping others, even something as simple as encouragement. Encouraging the body of Christ is not just something set apart for apostles, prophets, pastors and leaders, but for all believers.

"Therefore encourage (admonish, exhort) one another and edify (strengthen and build up) one another, just as you are doing."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

the power of ENCOURAGEMENT

"...Timothy...to encourage you...that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this. For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened..."

(1 Thessalonians 3:2-4)

We were actually designed to give and receive encouragement as fuel. Think about how good it feels to be encouraged. Have you experienced strength from being encouraged that helped you turn and encourage others in return? Now think about people working in a restricted nation, or a place where they could feel alone at times from isolation due to persecution, cultural displacement or lack of ability to fellowship because there are no other believers in proximity. How can we—in the West—encourage them today?

Prayer starter

Pray for believers in your church or community and then pray with us for those who are without a spiritual community: Father, today I pray for ___ and___, that You would strengthen them in their faith and encourage their hearts. I ask that You encourage them in their afflictions, allowing them to feel Your tender mercy and grace surrounding them. In Jesus' name, amen."

Application

Ask the Lord to bring an individual to your mind who needs encouragement right now and say a prayer for him/her. Then, send that person a message, letting him know that you just prayed for him or record your prayer and send it as an audio text.

Prayer for our family living in persecution

Write out a prayer for the believers in the underground church and email it to us at prayer@catalyticministries.com. Thank you.

Praying for you

May the Lord strengthen you and guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7). After having received the impacting message of Sheep Among Wolves, we pray you would contend for the better life God has for you and be strengthened in your resolve to obey all that He has commanded. In Jesus' name, amen.