

## Follow up Questions from message on Sunday, May 28, 2017

### Faith Apps: Encourage

#### Reread 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11

1. Studies have shown that our ratio of encouragement to criticism is 1 to 6. In the past week or two what ratio would you give yourself?
2. Share with the group someone who has been most encouraging for you?
3. Pastor Jon mentioned in his sermons that the problem with encouragement is we think it's a nice thing to do but it's not urgent. Why is this a problem?
4. What do you think we drift toward criticism?
5. What happens to people who never receive an encouraging word?
6. Proverbs 11: 25 *Those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.* When have you experienced this to be true?
7. 1 Thessalonians 5:9 *For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our lord Jesu Christ, who died for us,* Discuss your thoughts on Paul's assertion that "God has destined us."
8. If the point of salvation is to secure God's plans in the here and now as opposed to the life after, how does that change our understanding of the Christian life?
9. Can you share a time when God, the Holy Spirit, nudged you with an encouraging voice?
10. Who is God calling you to become a voice of encouragement? Can this group keep you accountable?