

Exhort One Another
(Hebrews 3:13)

Introduction:

1. This morning we studied the responsibility given in Galatians 6:2 -- the Lord's people are to "bear one another's burdens."
2. This evening we are studying another responsibility given in Hebrews 3:13 -- the Lord's people are to exhort [encourage] one another.
3. Let us begin by showing that . . .

Discussion:

- I. THE BIBLE TEACHES WHEN AND WHY THE LORD'S PEOPLE ARE TO EXHORT ONE ANOTHER
 - A. When: The Lord's people are to "*exhort one another*":
 1. "*daily*" [on a regular basis]
 2. "*To day*" [while opportunities are present].
 - B. Why:
 1. For one thing, your "exhortation" may prevent someone from being "*hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*"
 2. For another thing, your "exhortation" may help someone to remain steadfast (Hebrews 10:23-25).
- II. TO HELP US IN EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER, LET US LEARN FROM OTHERS WHO WERE EFFECTIVE EXHORTERS
 - A. Two of Judah's best kings, Hezekiah and Josiah, were exhorters.
 1. (2 Chronicles 31:4) Hezekiah gave a command for the benefit of the priests and the Levites "*that they might be encouraged in the law of the Lord.*"
 2. (2 Chronicles 35:2) Concerning the priests, Josiah "*encouraged them to the service of the house of the Lord.*"
 - B. One of the greatest exhorters of all was a man named Barnabas.
 1. He encouraged the needy through his generosity (Acts 4:36-37).
 2. He encouraged Saul by speaking up for him (Acts 9:26-27).
 3. He encouraged the church in Antioch (Acts 11:22-24).
 4. He encouraged John Mark.
 - a. (Acts 13:1-5) Mark left Antioch with Barnabas and Saul.
 - b. (Acts 13:13) For some reason Mark returned to Jerusalem.
 - c. (Acts 15:36-40) Barnabas insisted on giving Mark another opportunity.
 - C. Let us learn from these great exhorters and follow their examples.
- III. SOME SPECIFIC WAYS WE CAN EXHORT ONE ANOTHER
 - A. Those who are older can exhort the young -- God told Moses to encourage Joshua (Deuteronomy 1:38; 31:7-8).
 - B. You can let someone know that you are praying for him/her (Luke 22:31-32).
 - C. You can exhort others through good deeds like Dorcas (Acts 9:36, 39).
 - D. You can exhort others through words (Acts 11:23; Proverbs 25:11).
 - E. You can exhort others through writing (cards, notes, etc.).
 - F. You can exhort someone through a visit (Matthew 25:36b).

Conclusion:

1. In the world we have to contend with many things that are discouraging.
2. In the church, Christ wants His followers:
 - a. to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
 - b. to "*exhort one another*" (Hebrews 3:13).