

## Fire Pit Topic: Encouragement

April 2018

Definition: The effort to build up or lift up another person. Using your words or actions to help someone move to higher level in their life. To help someone elevate or broaden their “frame of reference” in life.

How to illustrate at the chapter meeting:

1. Ask those attending what they think it means to “build up” or “lift up” another person.
2. Our words are powerful. They can build up or tear down.
3. Encouragement may involve actions. Actions illustrate hope.

Fire Pit Discussion: For the Focus group

1. Talk about the definitions of encouragement.
2. Historical events that illustrate encouragement
  - a. It is said that during the darkest days of the Revolutionary War, in the harsh winter at Valley Forge, that General George Washington encouraged his troops to brave the severe weather and lack of food and clothing. He encouraged them to continue the fight for independence. His presence and his words encouraged them to “press on”.
3. References in the Bible:
  - a. I Thessalonians 5: 11
  - b. I Thessalonians 2: 11
  - c. Hebrews 3: 13
4. Illustrated in the life of Jesus:
  - a. John 16: 33
  - b. John 8: 10- 11
  - c. John 21: 15- 17 Jesus encourages and restores Peter.
5. Application: Questions
  - a. Who am I encouraging? (Wife, children, friends, workers, etc.)
  - b. Who am I encouraging in our Legacy chapter?