

Session 5: Admonish One Another (Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-14) and Spur One Another On to Love and Good Deeds (Hebrews 10:19-25)

Ice Breaker: What is something that someone spurred/pushed/encouraged you to do that you found especially meaningful?

1. In today's world, what would parallel the cup of cold water, clothes, or food in Matthew 25?
2. What good works are already being done that need encouragement? How could you encourage them?
3. What good works need doing in your small group? In your church? In your community?
4. What prevents us from doing these things?

Seeing what needs to be done and encouraging one another to do it is spurring one another on. We can handle that, but sometimes we struggle with the other subject of this lesson, admonishing one another. It is worth noting that the biblical passages that use the word "admonish" each pair it with another word like "teach," "care," or encourage. In contemporary usage to admonish is to verbally punish someone; the biblical use is closer to constructive criticism.

5. Would it be difficult for you, given the biblical definition, to admonish someone in your small group? Why or why not?
6. What message are you sending when you fail to admonish a sister/brother in Christ?
7. Given the Biblical understanding of this practice, how can we best admonish one another? How do we admonish one another in a way that demonstrates love and spurs the other on to love and good deeds?

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