

Who Needs Encouragement? [Isaiah 35:3-4](#)

Truett Cathy (founder of Chic-fil-A) once said, “How do you identify someone who needs encouragement? Answer: That person is breathing.”



How do you offer encouragement? Here are a handful of suggestions.

- Remember that you cannot give encouragement when you are talking about yourself. Sometimes we try to give others perspective on their problems by telling them how bad ours are. It does not help.
- Tell them what they are doing right. They already know what they are doing wrong. Tell them what they do well. Tell them something good about themselves. Do not worry, they won't get big-headed about it.
- Tell them what the future can be. Remind them of what God can do, how he can transform any situation for His glory, how he can transform any person into the image of Christ, how He can use anyone to accomplish His purpose.
- Tell them how it has worked before. Tell them how a friend overcame a similar problem. Or how a business leader dealt with the same adversity. Or how another Christian's perseverance ultimately paid off. Give them hope.
- Tell them you will help them refine their strategy. You cannot solve their problems for them. You cannot take the actions they need to take. But, when *they ask*, you can gently, in love, point out what should be done differently, and what should be done next.

Remember the words of Isaiah:

“³ With this news, strengthen those who have tired hands, and encourage those who have weak knees. ⁴ Say to those who are afraid, ‘Be strong, and do not fear, for your God is coming to destroy your enemies. He is coming to save you.’” [Isaiah 35:3-4](#)

Some words to think about...

Pastor David Scammell



GraceLife Church is located in the middle of an incredible community of people at the corner of Rangeline Road and Lincolnwood Lane in Longwood, FL. It is a place to be yourself; meet new friends and build authentic relationships; grow spiritually and relationally; to ask tough questions and get answers; and to make a difference in your community and world by serving others.

<http://GraceLifeNow.org>