

## Connected With One Another

### 48, Encourage One Another

#### I. Message

##### a. **Keep encouraging one another – v.11**

- i. “11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.”
- ii. Like the Thessalonian believers, FBCW is already doing this!
  1. The members of FBCW do a good job of comforting one another
  2. The members of FBCW do a good job of edifying one another
  3. All these activities encourage the church!
  4. Paul’s exhortation is to keep this encouraging up!

##### b. What are we to encourage?

##### i. **Encourage one another to spiritual ALERTNESS – v.1-7**

1. What does it take to be alert? 2 things
  - a. First, you have to be awake
  - b. Second, you have to be thinking clearly
2. Why is it so important to encourage one another to spiritual alertness?
  - a. The Savior’s return is immanent – v.1-7
    - i. Jesus IS coming back without warning!
    - ii. You can tell it is getting close
    - iii. But soon it will be happening!
    - iv. And like a thief in the night, He will catch some by surprise
  - b. Are you ready?
  - c. **Hebrews 10:24-25**
3. Alertness starts with being conscious – The church needs to wake up!
  - a. “4 **But ye, brethren**, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”
  - b. We know better
  - c. We know He is coming
  - d. So, get ready!
  - e. **1 John 3:2-3**

- f. If you are saved, you are a child of the light! – v.5
  - i. Acts 26:18
  - ii. John 8:12
  - iii. Ephesians 5:8,11
  - iv. Romans 13:11
  - v. The next generation is in danger!
  - vi. The end of FBCW could be around the corner!
  - vii. Wake up! (be conscious)
  - viii. But also, think clearly!

2. Be clear-headed – We need to think clearly

- a. 6...but let us watch and **be sober**. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.”
  - i. Titus 2:1-14
  - ii. All of you – think soberly, clearly, unimpaired by the philosophy of the world
- b. Paul said it this way
  - i. 2 Corinthians 10:5
  - ii. 1 Peter 1:13-15
- c. We are to encourage one another to be ALERT: awake and thinking clearly (biblically)!

**b. Encourage each other to spiritual ACTION**

- i. If you are awake and thinking clearly
- ii. It is reasonable to think that you are also attired – dressed for the day
  - 1. Ephesians 6 – the whole armor of God
  - 2. Two pieces are mentioned here – both defensive
    - a. Ephesians 6:13
    - b. Are you dressed for action?
    - c. Or are you passively living your Christian life?
  - 3. Believers are called to ACTION
    - a. **This is all our jobs**
    - b. Encourage another to spiritual ALERTNESS
    - c. Encourage one another to spiritual ACTION