



“The Power of Exhortation” Jan 25, 2022

I. **Hebrews 3:12-13**

A. Exhortation

1. *Greek – To call near; invite, comfort*
2. *Webster – Strongly encourage or urge to do something*

B. **Acts 27:21-25**

1. The situation looked grim, but God...
2. Paul's exhortation brought peace in a time of great trouble.
3. This is exactly what the church should be doing now! Encourage each other within the church and strengthen those without!
 - * There's enough misery and negativity in this world to go around for everyone....but encouragement is needed most, but it is uncommon and hidden in the dark, as it seems.
 - *Do you know why the news is so negative? Only One answer: Profit! (Bad news gets more attention, more clicks, and leads to more revenue.) (Interesting note: the love of money is the root of all evil).
 - *Why do people thrive toward the negative? Beyond what they see and hear, they live under a fallen state, so they are hard-wired this way until an overhaul is made!

- God's overhaul of your life begins with being “born again”. Then the renewing of the mind continues the process. That's why we are told to “think on these things.”

II. Word Affirmations

A. **Hebrews 10:23-25**

1. How to overcome the “hard-wired” negativity: Encouragement of the Word
2. Positive affirmations are good, but they will not change the root. Only the Word of God is powerful enough to make a real change.

B. **II Timothy 4:1-4**

1. **First...Preach the Word!**
2. **Second...Be Ready at all Times**
3. **Third...Reprove, Rebuke, and Exhort**