The Beauty of A Shared Life

(How Do I Encourage Others?)

READ: Romans 1:8-13

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world.
9 God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you
10 in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.
11 I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— 12 that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. 13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.
14 I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. 15 That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

Philippians 2:1-4 *Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*

"The only way you can truly get more out of life for yourself is to give part of yourself away."
Jim Stovall

You have the power to influence and encourage others for Christ when 3 attitudes/actions become part of your daily life.

Romans 1:8 *"FIRST off, **I thank my God** through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world."*

1. You encourage another person when you point out WHAT you are thankful for in that person.

"Thank" = gk: eucharisto – "full of thanks, completely filled up with grace, grateful, giving of genuine thanks, being thankful"
Greek derivative: charis = grace.

Q: How do I become more thankful?

Romans 1:9-10 *9 God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how **constantly I remember you 10 in my prayers at all times;**…"*

2. You encourage another person when you PRAY specifically for them.

"The men who have done the most for God in this world have been early on their knees. He who fritters away the early morning, its opportunity and freshness, in other pursuits than seeking God will make poor headway seeking Him the rest of the day. If God is not first in our thoughts and efforts in the morning, He will be in the last place the remainder of the day." E.M. Bounds

Romans 1:11-12 *11 I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— 12 that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.*

3. You encourage another person when they know you LONG to walk alongside them.

Encouraged = gk: sumparaklethenai… "strengthened, comforted together, to call to one's side, to console"