

# Westwood Life Groups - *A Place to Belong & A Place to Grow*

Life Group Leaders & Meeting Times (groups with a \* meet at the Westwood building):

5:30pm, Mondays-Terry Boyd  
5:00pm, Saturdays- David Womack  
\*11:45, Sundays – David Britton  
\*11:45, Sundays – Joseph Stotts  
\* 1:00, Sundays – Bob Deason  
7:00, Wednesdays – Teens

1:00, Sundays-Glenn Mitchell  
1:30, Sundays- Tim Deason  
5:00, Sundays – Kirk Mullican  
5:00, Sunday- Neil Helton  
6:00, Sundays-Terry Connor  
\*6:00, Sundays – Jeff McKinley  
6:00, Sundays – Josh Chandler

(PLEASE, CALL IN ATTENDANCE TO CHURCH OFFICE)

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## *The Jesus Language, #4* *Encouraging Words*

### Introduction:

- Today, we will look at a story in Matthew 8, where Jesus comes into contact with a centurion. A closer look will show us a few of the different ways Jesus spoke the love language of encouraging words. Following His example, we will see how we can give our love to others in the same way!
- Proverbs 12:18; James 3:5-6; James 3:9-11
- Today's Text: Matthew 8:5-13

### *I. He Encouraged This Man In Front Of \_\_\_\_\_!*

- Matthew 8:10
  - Jesus commended the man by saying to the crowd that He had not seen a faith as great as the man's in all of Israel!
- There are other times when Jesus encouraged people in front of others...
  - Matthew 9:20-22; Luke 10:38-42
- If a person's love language is encouraging words, the best thing you can do is to encourage him/her in front of others.

### *II. He Gave Hope For The Man's \_\_\_\_\_!*

- Matthew 8:11-12 – Jesus gave this man hope, reassurance and affirmation!
- Jesus encouraged and returned joy to the woman in John 4:1-30.
- The encouraging words of Jesus cut through the stares and venomous words of the Pharisees in John 8:1-11. These words encouraged her future!

### *III. He Proved His Words Could Be \_\_\_\_\_!*

- Matthew 8:13; Luke 7:10
- Think about the trustworthy nature of the words of Jesus (Matthew 14:22-33; Matthew 17:22-23; Mark 8:31-32; Luke 24:5-7; John 20:3-10).
- If we want our words to mean something we must back them up with our actions!

### Close...

- Proverbs 18:21
- Our words have tremendous power. If we choose to follow Jesus, we should use our words to encourage others and build them up every chance that we get!

Westwood Church of Christ  
Sunday Morning  
July 22, 2018

***Life Group Questions for the Week of...***  
***July 22, 2018***

1. When we were kids we probably had a well-meaning parent or loved one tell us, "*Sticks and stones will break my bones but words can never hurt me.*" That sounds good, but it's not true is it? (Notice Proverbs 12:18)
2. Read James 3:5-12. What does James tell us about the power of our speech and the problems caused by inconsistent speech?
3. Why was it important for Jesus to commend the man in our text publicly? (Matthew 8:10) Who else can you think of in the Bible whom Jesus praised? (Matthew 9:20-22; Luke 10:38-42)
4. How did the words of Jesus (and the manner in which He spoke them) change the future for the women in John 4 and John 8?
5. How impactful can our words be on the life of others (for good and bad)? Can you relate times when you have been encouraged and possibly discouraged by the words of others (and those words may be spoken or written).
6. The words of Jesus can always be trusted (Matthew 8:13; cf. Luke 7:10); how important is it for us to be truth-tellers as disciples of Christ? What are some obvious negative effects of us being dishonest in our speech?
7. Almost everyone I know receives love through this love language of encouraging words. Can you commit today to **encouraging five people this week** with your words (spoken or written)? You'll make their day and God will bless yours!