



How to Stay Encouraged When Life Gets Hard

Jackson Arnett

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1 Thessalonians 2:13–16

Be encouraged because God's WORD is at WORK.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

How to be encouraged by God's Word:

- APPRECIATE it. (*2 Timothy 3:16*)
- APPROPRIATE it. (*James 1:21, Colossians 3:16*)
- APPLY it. (*Philippians 2:12–13*)



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Be encouraged because you BELONG to a COMMUNITY.

1 Thessalonians 2:14a, 1 Thessalonians 1:7–8

- A LOCAL Community. (*Galatians 6:2*)
- A GLOBAL Community. (*Colossians 1:3–6*)
- A HISTORICAL Community. (*Hebrews 12:1–3, Romans 15:4*)



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Be encouraged because you FACE OPPOSITION.

1 Thessalonians 2:14b-16

- Opposition is EXPECTED. (*1 Thessalonians 2:15a, John 15:18-20, 2 Timothy 3:12*)
- Be encouraged – you are LIVING out your faith AUTHENTICALLY.
- Opposition is HOSTILE. (*1 Thessalonians 15:b-16a, 2 Corinthians 4:8-12*)



- Be encouraged – DEPENDING on God will SUSTAIN you.
- Opposition is TEMPORARY. (*1 Thessalonians 2:16b, Romans 12:19*)
- Be encouraged – EVIL has an EXPIRATION date.

