Encouraging One Another

By Laurence Torr

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Wherefore comfort (parakaleō) yourselves together, and edify (oikodomeō) one another, even as also ye do.

1 Thessalonians 2:11 As ye know how we exhorted (parakaleō) and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children,

Parakaleo

**Definition**

1. to call to one's side, call for, summon
2. to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, etc.
a. to admonish, exhort
b. to beg, entreat, beseech
   1. to strive to appease by entreaty
c. to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation, to comfort
   1. to receive consolation, be comforted
d. to encourage, strengthen
e. exhorting and comforting and encouraging
f. to instruct, teach

The right definition is found in the context of the verse.

The “calling to one’s side” suggests to give aid and help by the use of admonishing, encouraging, consoling, exhorting, inviting, entreating instructing. Its opposite would be “warning.”

Ephesians 4:1-3, I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech (parakaleō) you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1. to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation, to comfort,

2 Corinthians 2:7; So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.

2 Corinthians 1:6; And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.
2 Corinthians 7:6  Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

2. to encourage, strengthen

Ephesians 6:22; Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts.

Colossians 2:2  That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

Colossians 4:8; Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts;
2 Thessalonians 2:16 - 17, 16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,

17 Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.
3. it combines the ideas of exhorting and comforting and encouraging in

Romans 12:6 - 8; Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;
7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.
1 Corinthians 14:31; For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

1 Thessalonians 3:2. And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith: