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<p>Theme: Encouragement</p>	<p>Date: 15 June 2012</p>
<p>Scripture: Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Thessalonians 5:11-12</p>	<p>Comment: I've been following the Olympic Torch Relay as it weaves its way around the UK. In fact you can watch it live on the internet and I'm finding it just amazing seeing the hundreds of people turning out to watch, celebrate and cheer each torch bearer who runs and shines like a star for their stretch. Some of the torch bearers are famous sports stars, others have incredible stories of triumph over adversity, and others are simply well loved people but in those moments that they run they are so proud & happy, encouraged by the crowds.</p> <p>Encouragement makes us shine like stars, makes us feel we can do way more than we thought we could and pushes us forward. This is even more so within marriage. Encouragement from the person who knows us best makes us think 'wow they really believe in me'. It is vital whether life is good and we're just joyfully boosting each other or things are difficult and we are the only person giving our spouse any encouragement.</p>
<p>Prayer (as a couple): Father, thank you for reminding us about encouragement. Please give us some areas in which you want us to encourage each other right now. Amen</p>	<p>Prayer (for others): Father – we pray for ----- and ----- - that they might discover the gift of encouragement and turn things around just by building each other up more. Amen</p>

Final quote:

“Remember, man does not live on bread alone: sometimes he needs a little
buttering up.”
John C. Maxwell

**Remember others will also be praying in this way this week. Together and with God we
can make a difference.**

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