

# THE GIFT OF COURAGE – Encouraging One Another

CCSI CARE SEMINAR 21 March 2022 James Macbeth 1 Thessalonians 51-11

## Introduction – A roadside gift

### 1. What is COURAGE?

### 2. What DISCOURAGES us?

- Isolation/ lack of presence
  
- a lack of thanks & acknowledgement
  
- parents who embitter
  
- poor & false theology
  - ‘filthy rags’ Isaiah 64.6 ??
  
  - ‘your sickness is punishment’
  
  - aspirational Christianity

### **3. ENCOURAGEMENT – God’s word and presence**

- The Gospel answer to sin & reality of death
- 1 Thessalonians 5 – greater aspirations, deeper hope
- Biblical portraits of courage – small people doing epic things in God’s strength
- a heavenly Father who loves our service in faith
- encourage others

### **REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What typically discourages you?
2. Are there particular areas of your life where you need encouragement to keep going, keep loving, keep serving, keep hoping?
3. When was the last time you were encouraged? How did that come about?
4. What has encouraged you today from the talk and interview?
5. Can you think of someone or a few people you could encourage this week? How will you do this?