



# Love One Another According to the Need

1 Thessalonians 5:14

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We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

# **Main Point**

Love for one another will lead us to speak truth to each other according to the need of the moment.



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## Ephesians 4:15

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, **admonish** the unruly, **encourage**  
the fainthearted, **help** the weak, be patient with everyone.

Truth must be spoken according  
to the need of the moment.

## **Ephesians 4:29**

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth,  
but only such a word as is good for edification  
**according to the need of the moment,**  
so that it will give grace to those who hear.

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Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth,  
but only such a word as is good for edification  
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A faded map of Europe is visible in the background, showing major cities and geographical features. The text is overlaid on the map.

**Love According to the Need**  
Admonish the rebelliously undisciplined.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

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## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, **admonish the unruly**, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.



A faded topographic map of a region, likely in the Balkans, showing rivers, terrain contours, and place names. The map is light-colored with blue lines for rivers and brown lines for terrain. The text is overlaid on the map.

# **Admonish the Rebelliously Undisciplined**

Who are the rebelliously undisciplined?



## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

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This word referred to the rebellious or undisciplined soldier who fell out of line, but the word came to be used of those who didn't show up for work.

# Paul's Usage

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-8

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an **unruly** life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an **undisciplined** manner among you, nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you...

# Paul's Usage

## 2 Thessalonians 3:6-8

...not because we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example. For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. For we hear that some among you are leading an **undisciplined** life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.



Apparently, there were some who were rebellious in reference to work, refusing to heed Paul's instruction and who needed correction.

Are there applications for us?

# Admonish the Rebelliously Undisciplined

Who are the rebelliously undisciplined?

What does it mean to admonish them?

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, **admonish the unruly**, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.



## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, **admonish** the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

This word combines the noun “mind” with the verb “to set or put or deposit”.

To admonish someone is to speak so as to set in their mind truth that corrects.



It would be harmful to *encourage*  
someone in his rebellion.

What the rebellious brother  
needs is admonition.

In order to admonish well, one must know and apply *God's* truth, understanding that it is *God's* Word that has authority.

# Love According to the Need

Admonish the rebelliously undisciplined.

Console the fainthearted.

## **1 Thessalonians 5:14**

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## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

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**the fainthearted**, help the weak, be patient with everyone.



# Console the Fainthearted

Who are the fainthearted?

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

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**the fainthearted**, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage

***the fainthearted***, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

The word literally means *small-souled*, and likely refers to those who are faltering under affliction or who are fatigued by the fight.



## **1 Thessalonians 3:1-3**

Therefore when we could endure it no longer, we thought it best to be left behind at Athens alone, and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith, so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions.

Life is difficult, but the Christian life is even more so, because as such we engage the fight and do battle with our flesh and the world.



# Console the Fainthearted

Who are the fainthearted?

What does it mean to console them?



## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

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We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, **encourage**  
the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

This is not the usual word translated  
“encourage” but has a more focused meaning  
that indicates consolation in grief or affliction.

## **John 11:31**

Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and **consoling her**, when they saw that Mary got up quickly and went out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Christian consolation comes from the embrace of gospel truth; so, to console someone is to comfort them with the truth of the gospel.

Is this how you console yourself and others?

# Love According to the Need

Admonish the rebelliously undisciplined.

Console the fainthearted.

Strengthen the weak.



## **1 Thessalonians 5:14**

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## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

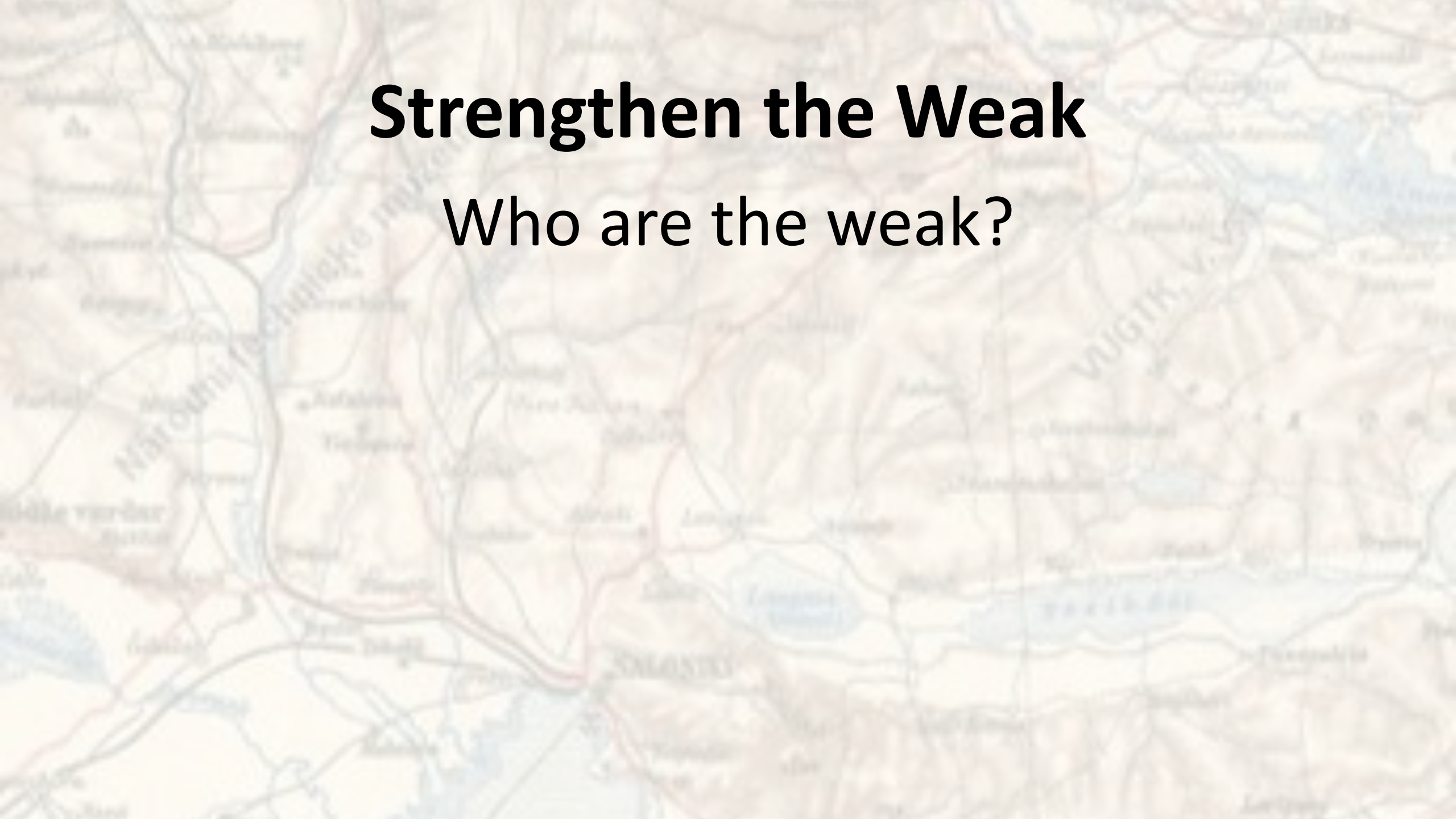
We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage

the fainthearted, **help the weak**, be patient with everyone.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage

the fainthearted, ***strengthen the weak***, be patient with everyone.

A faded topographic map of a region, likely in the Balkans, showing a network of rivers and terrain contours. The map is light-colored with blue lines for water and brown lines for elevation. The text is overlaid on the map.

# Strengthen the Weak

Who are the weak?



## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

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the fainthearted, **strengthen the weak**, be patient with everyone.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage

the fainthearted, strengthen **the weak**, be patient with everyone.

Weakness often referred to physical sickness or infirmity; but in this context, the weakness is not physical but moral or spiritual.

It was most likely a weakness of faith that resulted in wavering.

## **Romans 4:19-20**

Without **becoming weak** in faith, he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.

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**in unbelief** but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.



There will be many circumstances of life that will tempt you to waver in unbelief; but as your faith grows stronger, you will become less and less moveable.



# Strengthen the Weak

Who are the weak?

What does it mean to strengthen them?

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## 1 Thessalonians 5:14

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage

the fainthearted, ***help*** the weak, be patient with everyone.

This word literally means *to hold against* and has the connotation of coming alongside to help.

This help is aimed at strengthening the weak person in respect to his or her faith.



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and **being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.**

To strengthen someone in his faith is to help him to take hold of God's promises, leading him to a full assurance of God's faithfulness.



# Love According to the Need

By admonishing the rebelliously undisciplined.

By consoling the fainthearted.

By strengthening the weak.

By being patient with everyone.

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We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage

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Patience is not ignoring or excusing sin but is rather a disposition of compassion that operates with reasonable expectations and refuses to give in to frustration or anger.



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## **Ephesians 4:1-3**

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

## Ephesians 4:1-3

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showing tolerance for one another in love, **being diligent**

**to preserve the unity of the Spirit in  
the bond of peace.**

# Conclusion

Do you believe that love for one another means speaking truth to one another?

Are you growing in your understanding of the gospel such that you are able to admonish, console, and strengthen others in it?

Do you have a disposition of compassion and reasonable expectations that keep you from frustration and anger?