

Everybody can Encourage Somebody

Barnabas Encourages Paul to Become an Encourager

Points to Consider

1. The Start
2. The Shift
3. The Split

The Start

Acts 4:36-37 *And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, 37 having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. NKJV*

Barnabas was such an encourager that the apostles changed his name from Joses to “Son of _____.”

Barnabas encouraged people with his _____ generosity.

Barnabas was an encourager when things were going _____.

Acts 9:26-30 *And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. 28 So he was with them at Jerusalem, coming in and going out. 29 And he spoke boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus and disputed against the Hellenists, but they attempted to kill him. 30 When the brethren found out, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him out to Tarsus. NKJV*

Barnabas encouraged Saul by _____ for him. The Jews had reason to be afraid! Saul was persecuting, torturing, and killing Christians.

Acts 11:19-24 *Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. 20 But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. 22 Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. 23 When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. 24 For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. NKJV*

After Stephen’s death people _____ encouragement, so the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas.

The Holy Spirit describes Barnabas as “a _____ man, full of the Holy Spirit and of _____.”

Good people encourage Christians to _____ with the Lord.

Acts 11:25-26 *Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. 26 And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. NKJV*

It was Barnabas that went to Tarsus to find Saul and take him back to Antioch where they spent a year teaching people about Christ.

Encouragers encourage people by example when they _____ side by side with them.

Encouragers often recognize other people's talents and skills.

Everybody can encourage somebody. Who will you encourage?

The Shift

Acts 13:6-12 *Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, 7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. **This man called for Barnabas and Saul** and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? 11 And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord. NKJV*

Up until this event, _____ was always mentioned first. This was a major shift in their relationship.

Verse 13 says, "Now when _____ and _____ party set sail..."

Encouragers are _____ people hoping others reach their full potential even if it means they must take a back seat to the one they encouraged.

Acts 13:15 The rulers of the synagogue in Antioch of Pisidia asked Paul and Barnabas if they had any words of consolation or encouragement. Paul stood up and gave a history of the children of Israel and ended with these words, "Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins."

Encouragers know that true, long-lasting encouragement comes from Jesus who _____ us of our sins.

Encouragers point people to _____! They do this by what they say and what they do.

Acts 14:11 *Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" 12 And*

Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. NKJV

Paul performed the miracle that amazed the people, and he was the _____ speaker.

Acts 14:21-23 *And when they had preached the gospel to that city and **made many disciples**, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, **exhorting them to continue in the faith**, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." NKJV*

Paul and Barnabas _____ strengthened the souls of the disciples and exhorted them to _____ in the faith (11:23).
Barnabas' encouraging ways were _____ **off** on Paul

Everybody can encourage somebody. Who will you encourage?

The Split

Acts 15:36-41 *Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing." 37 Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. 38 But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. 39 Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; 40 but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. NKJV*

Barnabas encouraged Mark by _____ **up** to Paul and eventually taking him on a missionary journey.

Acts 16:38-40 *And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans. 39 Then they came and pleaded with them and brought them out, and asked them to depart from the city. 40 So they went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed. NKJV*

Before they left Philippi, Paul and Silas entered Lydia's house and encouraged them.

Acts 20:1-3 *After the uproar had ceased, Paul called the disciples to himself, embraced them, and departed to go to Macedonia. 2 Now when he had gone over that region and encouraged them with many words, he came to Greece 3 and stayed three months.*

By spending time with the Son of Encouragement, Paul _____ an encourager. In Romans 16 Paul ends his letter by encouraging people to encourage people who encouraged him.

Rom 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. NKJV*

Paul considered the ability to exhort or encourage as a gift from God.

1 Tim 4:13 *Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. NKJV*

2 Tim 4:11 *Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry. NKJV*

Later Mark proved to be useful to _____ in his service to the Lord.

Everybody can encourage somebody. Who will you encourage?