



LIFEgroup STUDY GUIDE

What you will need to supplement this guide:

1. A copy of the outline provided for notes on this message (copy from message or downloaded from the COASTAL APP).
2. A Bible or Bible APP to refer to verses.

PURSUING LIFE TOGETHER

SUNDAY MESSAGE REVIEW

NOTE to the LIFEgroup Leader: This guide is provided as a tool to assist you in facilitating a structured discussion with your group. When used in conjunction with the outline notes and a Bible this tool will ensure that your group will *Engage Authentically*. The questions are merely recommended “talk starters”. It is important for you to let God help you navigate through the conversation as you *pursue life together* as a group.

OPEN IN PRAYER

STARTER QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?

What stood out to you from the message this week?

MAIN IDEA:

- REVIEW THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE MESSAGE. Allow time for discussion
- READ THE MAIN SCRIPTURE FROM THE MESSAGE OUTLINE.

How did this verse speak to you in your life?

- REVIEW THE SUB-TOPICS of the MESSAGE.

Have someone read each of the verses that were highlighted in the message, and briefly discuss.

Is there an area that you feel God is speaking to you through this message?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

- SUMMARIZE the main idea of this message.

Would anyone like to share your thoughts about what we discussed today?

How can we pray for you as a group?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

PERSON OF INTEREST

“Barnabas: Everybody Needs Encouragement”

“Anxiety in a person’s heart weighs him down, but an encouraging word brings him joy.”
Proverbs 12:25 (NET)

Definition: Encourage — “To inspire with courage.”

“All the believers ...felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. ...There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means “Son of Encouragement”) ... He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.”
Acts 4:32-37 (NLT)

How to unleash the power of encouragement in other’s lives:

1. Use your resources to encourage the work of God

“All the believers ...felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had.”
(Vs. 32)

2. Use your influence to encourage young leaders

“When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They thought he was only pretending to be a believer! Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus. Barnabas also told them what the Lord had said to Saul and how he boldly preached in the name of Jesus in Damascus. Then the apostles accepted Saul, and after that he was constantly with them in Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord.”
Acts 9:26-28 (NLT)

Sometimes it will cost you something to help others reach their potential.

“Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas... and Saul. One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Dedicate Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them.” So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way. So Barnabas and Saul were sent out by the Holy Spirit.”
Acts 13:1-4 (NLT)

“On the Sabbath they went to the synagogue for the services. After the usual readings from the books of Moses and the prophets, those in charge of the service sent them this message: “Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, come and give it.” So Paul stood, lifted his hand to quiet them, and started speaking.”
Acts 13:14-16 (NLT)

- *“As Paul and Barnabas left the synagogue that day...”* (vs.42)
- *“Many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas...”* (vs.43)
- *“Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly...”* (vs.46)

“...then Barnabas, feeling a loss of power and influence, felt useless and bitter. Full of envy and jealousy, he decided to sabotage Paul’s ministry.”

“The believers who had been scattered during the persecution after Stephen’s death traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch of Syria. ...When the church at Jerusalem heard what had happened, they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived... he encouraged the believers to stay true to the Lord.”
Acts 11:19-23 (NLT)

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Acts 11:19-23 (NLT)

3. Use your words to encourage discouraged people

“He encouraged the believers to stay true to the Lord.” Acts 11:23 (NLT)