



## MESSAGE NOTES

PRACTICAL TEACHING FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Title: **Barnabas, the Encourager**  
Series: **EYEWITNESS - ACTS**  
Text: **Acts 4:36-37; 11:19-24**  
Speaker: **Kevin T. Hardy** Date: **April 28, 2024**

“But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you**; and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

### EYEWITNESS - BARNABAS

*Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles **called Barnabas** (which means **Son of Encouragement**), 37 sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4:36-37)*

#### 1. ENCOURAGER'S ARE POWERFUL FORCES FOR GOD.

- **sold a field he owned** and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4:37)
- **News of this** reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and **they sent Barnabas to Antioch.** 23 When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and **encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord** with all their hearts. (Ac 11:22–23).

#### 2. ENCOURAGER'S ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- He was a good man, **full of the Holy Spirit** and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. (Ac 11:24).
- In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas. . . 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, **the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”** 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. (Acts 13:1-2)

#### 3. ENCOURAGER'S SEE THE POSSIBILITIES IN OTHERS

- When he came to Jerusalem, he (SAUL) tried to join the disciples, but **they were all afraid of him**, not believing that he really was a disciple. 27 **But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles.** He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus. (Ac 9:26–27).

- ***Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. (Ac 11:25–26).***

### **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT WORDS?**

- *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, **but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs,** that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And **do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,** with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Eph. 4:29-30)*
- The tongue has **the power of life and death.** (Proverbs 18:21) Anxiety weighs down the heart, but **a kind word cheers it up.** (Proverbs 12:25) **The soothing tongue** is a tree of life. (Proverbs 15:4) **Gracious words** are ... **sweet to the soul** and healing to the bones. (Proverbs 16:24)

### **CONDITIONS FOR TRUE ENCOURAGEMENT**

#### **CONDITION #1: PROMPTED BY LOVE**

- *Such love has no fear, because **perfect love expels all fear.** If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. 19 **We love each other because he loved us first.** (1 John 4:18 NLT)*

#### **CONDITION #2: DIRECTED TOWARDS SOMEONE'S FEAR**

- *And **let us consider how we may spur one another** on toward love and good deeds. 25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, **but let us encourage one another** — and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Heb.10:24-25)*
- Therefore **encourage one another** and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1Th. 5:11