

The Church That Changed the World / Power-Filled People

Barnabas – A Spirit-Filled Sacrificial Servant, Used by God to Change His World for Jesus Christ!

Introduction:

- [Image] Washing Blake's BIG (and smelly??!) feet!
- What does it take to serve someone like this?
- Be willing to stoop
 - Be willing to sacrifice comfort
 - Be willing to put the needs of the other above your own
- [Need] Are you a servant? Would the people who live alongside you say you are a servant?
Are we servants? Would the people who live near to us say we are servants?
- [Subject] Spirit-Filled Sacrificial Servants are often used by God to change their world for Jesus Christ
- [Text] Today we are going to consider 1 man who lived as a Spirit-filled sacrificial servant = Barnabas
Turn with me to Acts 4
- [Preview] As you turn to Acts 4, we are going to consider Barnabas's life in 4 short scenes ...
-

I. Barnabas Was a Spirit-Filled Sacrificial Servant Who Gave His Finances to Serve the Church in Jerusalem [Acts 4:32-37]

'Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of encouragement), sold a field he owned and brought the money & put it at the apostle's feet' [Acts 4:36-37]

II. Barnabas Was a Spirit-Filled Sacrificial Servant Who Gave His Time & Talents to Serve the Church in Antioch [Acts 11:19-24]

⁴⁹ Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. ²⁰ Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. ²² News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

III. Barnabas Was a Spirit-Filled Sacrificial Servant Who Gave Opportunities & Honor to Paul When He was Forgotten, & Grace & a Second Chance to Mark When He had Fallen [Acts 11:25-26; 15:36-41]

²⁵ 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.

³⁶ Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." ³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, ³⁸ but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. ³⁹ They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, ⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹ He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

IV. Spirit-Filled Sacrificial Servants are often used by God to change their world for Jesus Christ [HP]



(1) BARNABAS WAS A SPIRIT-FILLED SACRIFICIAL SERVANT WHO GAVE HIS FINANCES TO SERVE THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM

32 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. 33 With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all 34 that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales 35 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

36 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 4:32-37

(2) BARNABAS WAS A SPIRIT-FILLED SACRIFICIAL SERVANT WHO GAVE HIS TIME & TALENTS TO SERVE THE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH

'19 Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. 20 Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. 21 The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. 22 News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. 24 He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

ACTS 11:19-24





PHOTO BY RUTH TOWELL

(3) BARNABAS WAS A SPIRIT-FILLED SACRIFICIAL SERVANT WHO GAVE OPPORTUNITIES & HONOR TO PAUL WHEN HE WAS FORGOTTEN, & GRACE & A SECOND CHANCE TO MARK WHEN HE HAD FALLEN [ACTS 11:25-26; 15:36-41]

25 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.

ACTS 11:25-26

36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." 37 Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, 38 but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. 39 They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, 40 but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. 41 He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

ACTS 11:36-41

10,000+

DTS Students Taught



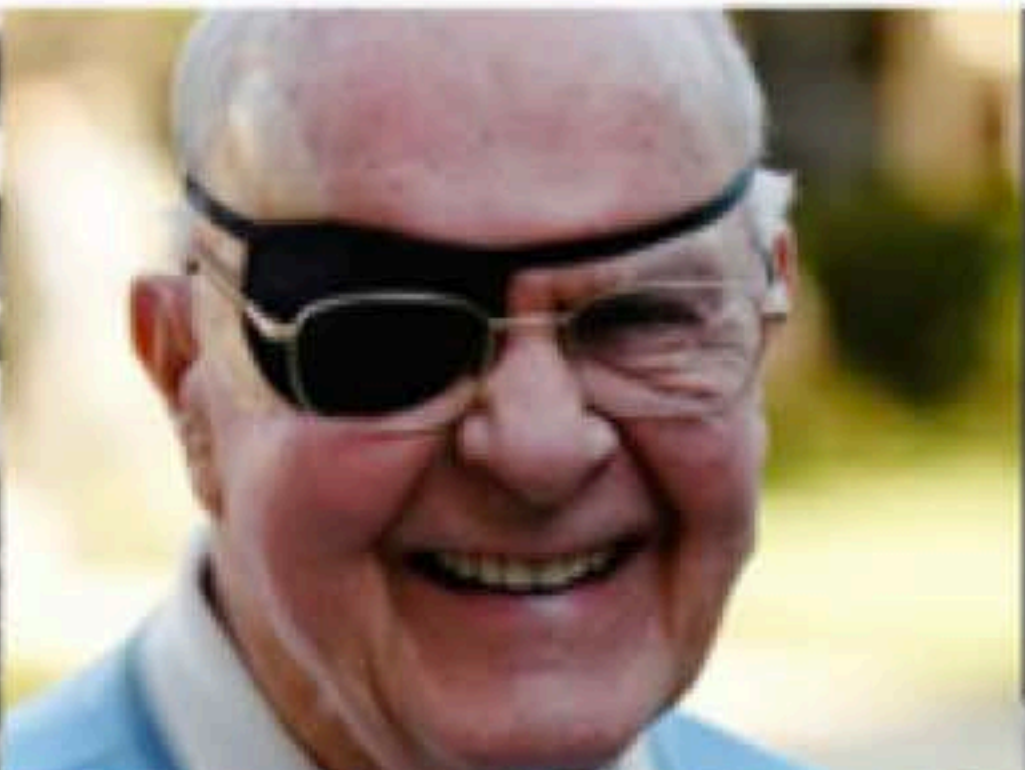
23

Books Written



66

Years of Faithful Marriage



10

Children/Grandchildren



**SPIRIT-FILLED SACRIFICIAL SERVANTS ARE OFTEN USED BY GOD TO
CHANGE THEIR WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST**