

**SUNDAY MORNING MESSAGE – 071219**  
**SERIES: STAND IN THE GAP**  
**WEEK 1: ENCOURAGE (BARNABAS)**

***Ezekiel 22:30 (NLT)***

*"I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to **stand in the gap** in the wall so I wouldn't have to destroy the land, but I found no one.*

**Acts 9:18-19 (ESV)**

*18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.*

**Acts 9:26-27 (ESV)**

*26 And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.*

**1. ENCOURAGERS ARE LIFTERS NOT LOADERS**

***"Do you know how I identify someone who needs encouragement?  
If the person is breathing, they need a pat on the back!"***

*-Truett Cathy, founder of Chic-fil-a*

**1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)**

*11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (ESV)**

*3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

**2. ENCOURAGERS ARE RISK TAKERS**