

Part 4

EARNING THE NAME ENCOURAGER

Acts 4:36-37

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 9:26-27

26 When he came to Jerusalem, he 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.

Acts 11:22-26

22 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. 24 He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

Message notes:

_____ and encouragement go together.

We are a church that embraces whoever God _____ us.

You can't be an _____ if you aren't an encourager.

To be a Minister of Encouragement, you need the _____
_____ to help you.

The only way for others to see you as an encourager is to
_____ them.

When people least deserve an encouraging word is when they
work the _____.

Encouragement comes through _____ to the
Holy Spirit.

Additional notes:

Discussion Questions:

What do you think your friends would call you behind your back?

What would need to change in your actions for you to earn the title "encourager"?

Why do generosity and encouragement go together?

Why does evangelism require encouragement?

Share a story of a time that you have seen encouragement work it's best when someone deserved it the least.

How has the Holy Spirit helped you to become a better encourager?

How can you get a greater sensitivity to the Holy Spirit?

Ministry Time Questions:

Does anyone struggle with hearing words or prompts from the Holy Spirit?

Do you feel like you don't deserve the encouragement of the Father in your own life?