

Date: January 3, 2021

Message Title: Be a Barnabas

Scripture: Acts 9:26-28; 11:22-23, 25-26

Acts 9:26-28 - And when he had come to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; and they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus. ²⁸ And he was with them moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking out boldly in the name of the Lord.

1. Express _____

2. Meet _____

Acts 11:22-23, 25-26 - 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. 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.

3. Share _____

1. Who do you have in your life that encourages you like Barnabas? How have you recently benefited from someone's encouragement?
2. Has anyone ever given you a nickname? What was it? How likely is it that someone would have nicknamed you "encourager"?
3. Put yourself in Saul's shoes when he was trying to join forces with the Apostles and disciples in Jerusalem. How do you think Saul felt about Barnabas coming along and being an advocate for him?
4. Can you think of a time when you gave someone your support? What came out of your actions?
5. In what way can you step up and meet a ministry need in the Bridges family? How might your actions encourage Pastor Dan or our other pastors?
6. In what ways are you sharing in the work of ministry? Would your ministry involvement encourage our leaders?
7. If someone were to step up and encourage you right now, what difference might it make in your life?