

# Vision for our Vineyard : To Experience God and to Help People

The Kingdom of Give - #2  
Living in Creative Goodness

## BARNABAS "Son of Encouragement"

To be like Barnabas as we go about our daily living. To make the effort and take courage to strike up conversations with people as we go. To work at getting better at small talk. To be willing to listen to their story and having an ear to the Holy Spirit—that we might get a word of encouragement for them. God is for them.

### • The Encourager

Acts 4:32-37 For instance, there was Joseph, one of the apostles nicknamed BARNABAS

(which means **Son of Encouragement**). He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus.

**-1- Encouraged with words.** Joseph had a lifestyle and conversations which left people feeling better about themselves and energized and hopeful about their future because they had been with Him. He saw the beauty in them, the God-likeness, the potential, the dreams, the longings and he said "Amen" to what he saw.

### **-2- Encouraged with money and help.**

He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles for those in need.

**-3- Encouraged by speaking on behalf of Saul.** Acts 9:26-28 Barnabas brought Saul to the apostles and told how Saul had seen the Lord on the road to Damascus. Barnabas told them what the Lord had said to Saul and how he had boldly preached in the name of Jesus in Damascus. Then the apostles accepted Saul.

### **-4- Argued for a second chance.**

Acts 15:37 "Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark. But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not shared in their work. Their disagreement over this was so sharp that they separated. Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus."

• **Barnabas was right.** • Later Paul writes to Timothy. "Bring Mark with you when you come, for he will be helpful to me." 2 Timothy 4:11 Mark wrote the Gospel of Mark.

• **"Help others with encouraging words;** don't drag them down by finding fault." Romans 14:19 The Message

• He who prophesies **speaks to men for their up-building, and encouragement and consolation.**" I Corinthians 14:1,3