

# The Underrated: Barnabas

July 23, 2023

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Sermon by Pastor Bob Johnson / July 23, 2023

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Another Bible character who is underrated is introduced to us in [Acts 4](#). His name is **Barnabas**.

**[Acts 4:32-37](#) = Barnabas was an unselfish giver.**

- He was known by his character. *"Surnamed Barnabas, by the Apostles"*
- He was known by his heritage. *"A Levite and of the country of Cyprus"*
- He was known by his giving. *"Having land, sold it, and gave the money to the Apostles."*

An effective encourager gives to causes much greater than themselves.

**[Acts 9:23-27](#) = Barnabas trusted God's working in Saul's life.**

- He showed up for Saul. *"But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles"*
- He stood up for Saul. *"And declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way"*
- He spoke up for Saul. *"And how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus"*

An effective encourager sees who people can become.

**[Acts 11:22-26](#) = Barnabas focused on building up people.**

- He exhorted the people of Antioch. *"Exhorted them all"*
- He was an example to the people of Antioch. *"For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith."*
- He discipled the people of Antioch. *"And taught much people"*

An effective encourager points people to Jesus.

**[Acts 13:1-5, 42-52](#) Barnabas lived on mission.**

- He committed himself to the gospel message. *"They preached the Word of God"*
- He boldly proclaimed the gospel message. *"Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold"*
- He endured persecution for the gospel message. *"And raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas"*

An effective encourager walks with others on life's journey.

**[Acts 14:8-22](#) = Barnabas served faithfully in humility.**

- Barnabas recognized the power of God in Paul's life. *"The same heard Paul speak"*
- Barnabas refused to be praised by men. *"Why do ye do these things"*
- Barnabas accepted tribulation as part of serving the Lord. *"We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God"*

An effective encourager seeks God's approval, not man's praise.

**[Acts 15](#): = Barnabas took a stand for what was right.**

- He believed in the life-changing work of God. *"Declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought"*
- He believed in the faith-growing Word of God. *"Men that have hazarded their lives"*
- He believed in the heart-forgiving grace of God. *"Barnabas determined to take with him John"*

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