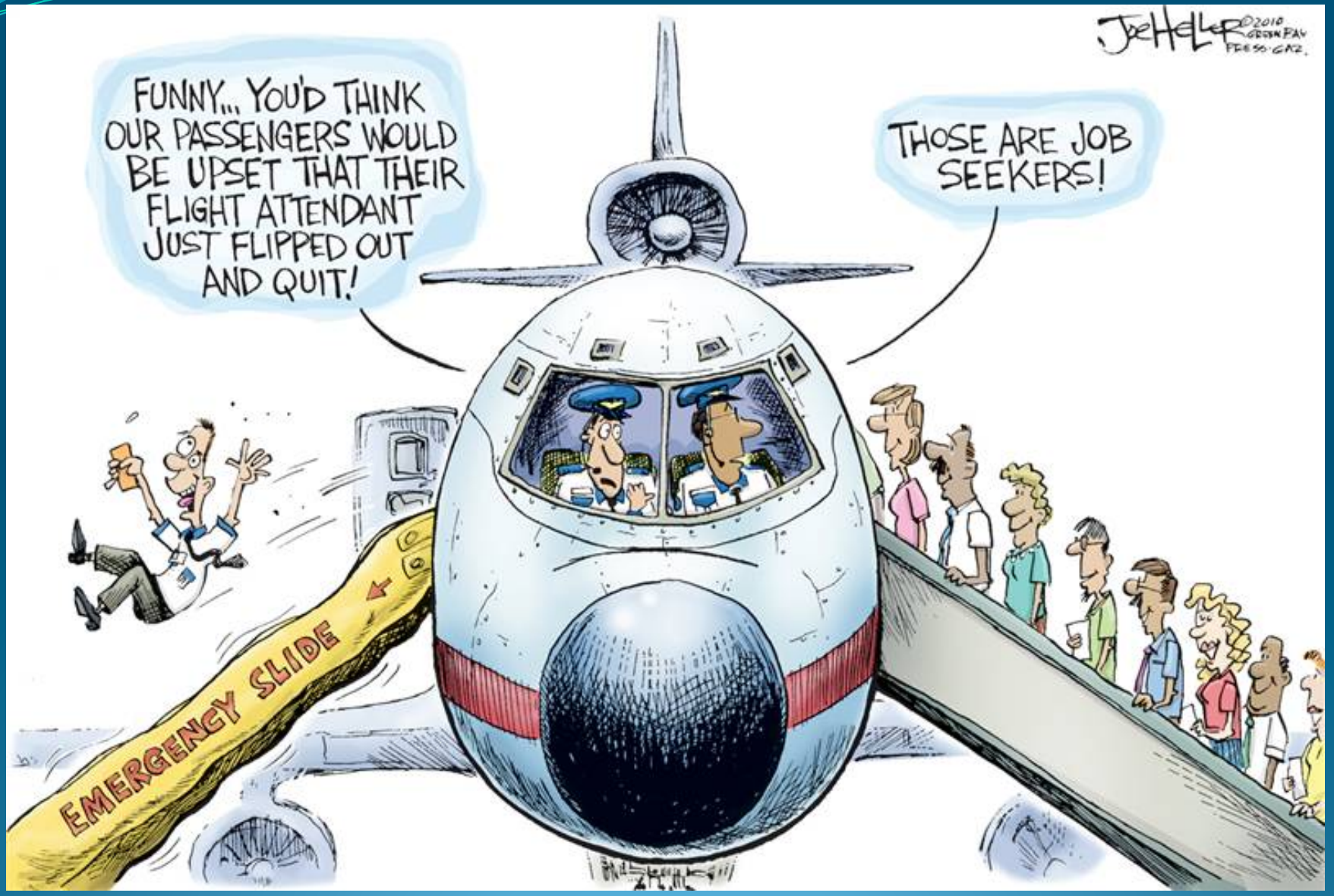
Encouraging One Another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FUNNY... YOU'D THINK OUR PASSENGERS WOULD BE UPSET THAT THEIR FLIGHT ATTENDANT JUST FLIPPED OUT AND QUIT!
THOSE ARE JOB SEEKERS!
EMERGENCY SLIDE



What does it mean to encourage?

Webster: to inspire with courage, spirit or hope.
To spur on, to stimulate, to hearten, to give help.

When you think of encouragement, what person in the NT comes to mind?

Barnabus!

Lessons in Encouragement from the life of Barnabus

1) Acts 4:36-37
Ever heard of a Cyprian Levite named Joseph?

His nickname was Barnabus,
which means "Son of Encouragement."

* Encouragers are givers

2) Acts 9:26-27 Barnabus & Paul.

* An encourager intercedes on behalf of others.

3) Acts 11:23,24
Barnabus sent to Antioch.

"…when he had come and witnessed the grace of God,"

* An encourager sees the grace of God in others.

Acts 11:23 "he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord"

Acts 11:24 "for he was a good man,
and full of the Holy Spirit
and of faith.
And considerable numbers were
brought to the Lord."

4) Acts 13:1-3 Barnabus and the church in Antioch

* An encourager fellowships with believers from different backgrounds.

5) Acts 14:12-15
Barnabus & Paul on their first missionary journey.

"And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes…"

* An encourager wants God, not himself, to receive any glory.

6) Acts 15:1-2 Barnabus & the Judiazers.

*An encourager does not compromise the truth.

7) Acts 15: 36-40
Barnabus & John Mark

*An encourager believes in what God can do in another's life, even when others may not.

An encourager:

1) Has a giving spirit
2) Intercedes on behalf of others.
3) Sees the grace of God in others and rejoices with them.
4) Fellowships with believers from different backgrounds.
5) Wants God, not himself, to receive the glory.
6) Does not compromise the truth.
7) Believes in what God can do in person's life, even when others may not.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

Hebrews 3:13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Romans 15:4 "For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

In your group:

* Share how the Lord Himself or a passage of Scripture has recently encouraged you.

Encouragement Challenge

Sit in a circle w/ one person in the middle.
That person chooses 2 people: one to be encouraged and the other who will compete w/ the person in the middle who did the choosing.
Both give their encouragements and the person who is the object of the encouragement decides which he or she likes best.

The person whose encouragement was not chosen then takes the center chair and starts over, choosing 2 new people.
Keep track of how many times your encouragement is chosen.

For the rest of the retreat keep a list of people you see or talk with who have needs. Write down their name, their need, pray for them and ask God to use you to be an encouragement to them by something you say or do for them.