

Session

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BIG IDEA
Believers should make a concerted effort to encourage one another.

OPENING QUESTIONS:

Can you share a recent time when a Christian's friends support or encouragement was meaningful to you?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read: Hebrews 10:24-25

Questions:

What are some common challenges to regular gathering with other Christians?

Why can it be difficult to make it apriority?

What is it about the encouragement of others that makes doing good easier?

Thought:

Saul who is later known as the apostle Paul was one of the most influential people in the early church and writing a quarter of our New Testament. Paul was a gifted teacher and a well educated and influential leader. In his early life he persecuted the budding church until he had a direct encounter with Jesus which changed everything for him. So how does someone go from being feared by the body of new Christians to living out his God given calling to preach and build the church? The answer is Barnabas.

November 22
WEEKEND

Read: Acts 4:32-37
Questions:
What stands out to you about the believers generosity?

Who in your life has a gift for encouraging others?

Read: Acts 9:26-27
Questions:
Why can it be difficult to make adult friends?

Why can it be difficult to make Christian friends?

Read: Acts 11:20-26
Questions:
Why was Barnabas's support important in this moment?

Barnaba's saw a gifting in Paul and how it could build up the church and called it out. Can you think of a time you have encouraged someone to use their gifts and skills to help the church or other believers?

Read: Acts 15:36-40

Here we see that even believers can have disagreements, but God can use them for his own glory. In one of his last recorded writings Paul requests the presence of Mark again, we can see that he was ultimately restored to Paul.

Read: 2 Timothy 4:9-13
Question: Is there anyone you need to be reconciled with?

Join the mission of Jesus

I will statement...
Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. As disciples this helps us to be changed by Jesus. Put it in the form, "I Will _____". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable.

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