

## **SCC SMALL GROUPS**

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**Being Encouragers**

**May 22, 2022**

### **Getting Started:**

Describe a time when you were the beneficiary of timely encouragement. In what form did the encouragement come? What difference did it make?

Who are the people whom God has used the most to propel your growth in Christ? What roles did they play?

### **Searching the Scriptures:**

#### **An encourager is called to help in messy situations (Acts 11:22-23)**

- A. As we read about Barnabas throughout the Book of Acts, it seems he was always on call into challenging environments: For example, when he observed what God was doing among the Greeks, what did he see that others might have missed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. In what ways did Jesus also model entering into messy situations? (See John 1:39, Hebrews 2:17, 4:4-16)

#### **An encourager builds trust (Acts 9:26-28)**

- C. Think back to the time when you began to be interested and follow Jesus. In the days and weeks after that did you have someone who encouraged you in the process?

D. What role did trusting another Christian play in your faith journey?

**An encourager takes time to interact and invest (Acts 11:25-26)**

E. How do you think the need for follow-up differed for Gentiles, who had no background in understanding the promise of the Messiah? What would be a comparable situation in our modern culture?

F. Note that Barnabas went looking for Saul. What investment was he making in Saul's life by this action?

**An encourager sees people through (Acts 15:36-39)**

G. Have you ever seen beyond rough edges of a person, and sponsored them? What happened.

**Application of the Scriptures:**

A. How do you most naturally encourage others? How often do you notice that happening?

B. How does Barnabas's example in these verses challenge you in a specific situation in your life?