

Paul's Pal
BARNABAS THE ENCOURAGER
Acts 11:24

Let's look at some characteristics of a good and godly person.

I. THE MAN CALLED BARNABAS - Acts 4:36-37

A. A LEVITE FROM CYPRUS (36a)

1. Born in Cyprus
2. Ministering as a Levite

B. A SON OF ENCOURAGEMENT (36b)

1. This is his nickname
2. "Barnabas" means one who come alongside

C. A SACRIFICIAL GIVER (37)

1. Giving all of his funds
2. Genuinely committed to this new work

D. A SELFLESS SERVANT - I Cor. 9:11-12

- He and Paul served without pay and supported themselves

II. THE MINISTRY OF BARNABAS - Acts 9-15

A. SPONSOR - Acts 9:26-28 and 12:25

1. Paul's Advocate - Acts 9:26-28
2. John Mark's Champion - Acts 12:25

B. TEACHER - Acts 11:19-30

1. A Consummate Encourager (19-23)
2. A Diligent Recruiter (25-26a)
3. A Faithful Instructor (26b)
4. A Charitable Leader (27-30)

C. MISSIONARY - Acts 13-15

1. The Leader (13:1-2)
2. An Assistant (13:13)
3. A Mediator (15:1-6)
4. A Reporter (15:12)
5. An Example (15:25-26)

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D. PROMOTER

1. Barnabas helped Paul enter the ministry - Acts 9:26-28
2. Barnabas helped Paul expand his ministry - Acts 11:25-26
3. Barnabas helped Paul extend his ministry - Acts 13:13

III. THE MISTEPS OF BARNABAS

- Though good and godly he is not perfect ...

A. DINNER HYPOCRISY - Galatians 2:11-14

1. Peter's Condemnation (11-12, 14)
2. Barnabas' Collusion (13)

B. MISSIONS TEAM MAKEUP - Acts 15:36-40

1. The Contention (36-39a)
2. The Conditions (39b)

CONCLUSION:

We all need good and godly friends like Barnabas.

Then too, all of us should seek to be that kind of friend to others.