

## Growth Group Discussion

### For the week of October 8, 2023

#### FOCUS – Saul's Story: Part 2, Acts 9:23-31

After his encounter with the Lord Jesus, Saul began to bring others to faith in Christ. Previously helped by Ananias, Saul is now being helped by Barnabas. Focusing our study on Barnabas, the book of Acts reveals 5 characteristics Barnabas showed that helped him encourage and build others up in the early church.

- Barnabas showed Generosity - Acts 4:36-37
- Barnabas showed forgiveness - Acts 9:26-28
- Barnabas encouraged people - Acts 11:19-30
- Barnabas showed humility - Acts 13:1-52
- Barnabas showed mercy - Acts 15:36-40

#### WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Have you ever been on the receiving end of someone building you up or giving you an opportunity to become better? If so, how did that help you to grow or reach a goal? If not, can you think of a time when you could have benefited from someone building you up?

#### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Barnabas displayed five elements that paved the way for the ministry of Paul and the growth of the church.
  - a. Where do you see these five elements represented in Romans 15:1-6?
  - b. Do you see any opportunities in your life to be an encourager who build up others such as children, coworkers, neighbors, friends, etc.?

- c. What are some possible challenges that might hinder you from being able to take risks on people to help them become better?
  - d. What do the following verses tell us about the purpose and importance of building up others? 1 Thessalonians 5:11-14; Hebrews 10:24-25
  - e. Can you think of a role you can play in the church that would allow you to encourage and strengthen others?
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- 2. As a parent, leader, mentor, friend, what does it take to help or build up others?
  - 3. What are some ways you may be able to encourage or build someone up this week?