

The Sons & Daughters of Encouragement

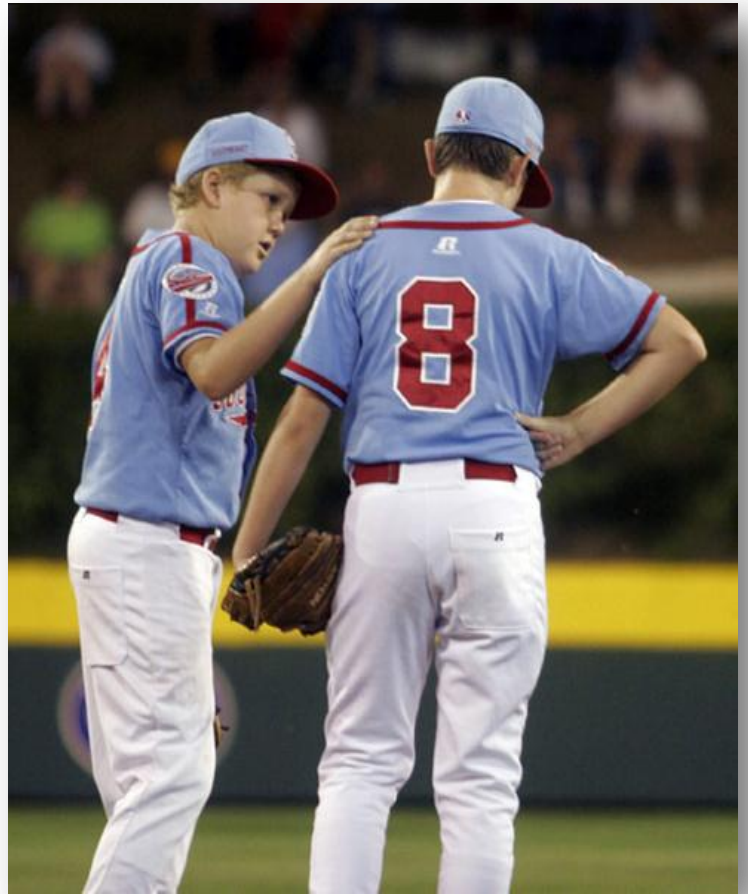
The Characteristics of an Encourager

Sunday Evening Message by Ray Reynolds (March 3, 2013)

Introduction: This morning we studied **Acts 4:36** and we were introduced to a man named Joseph who was renamed the "Son of Encouragement" because of his spirit. These words serve as an epitaph for him. What will your epitaph say? Over the next few weeks we are going to study together and see how we can become children of God like Barnabas. Tonight, I want to take a practical approach to these texts we mentioned. Let's continue to look through the book of Acts and notice some characteristics that we can learn from Barnabas....

Discussion:

- I. To Be An Encourager We Need to Sacrifice For Others*
Acts 4:32-37
- II. To Be An Encourager We Need to See the Best in Others*
Acts 9:26-31
- III. To Be An Encourager We Need to Support the Work of Others*
Acts 11:19-26
- IV. To Be An Encourager We Need to Spread the Good News to Others*
Acts 12:24-13:3
- V. To Be An Encourager We Need to Be Slow To Judge Others*
Acts 15:36-41



Conclusion: There is a pattern of behavior here that we can choose to follow today. Every one of us can become a person of encouragement. Every one of us can earn the privilege of having such words to describe us. Every one of us can be used by God to bring much needed encouragement to those around us. And it can happen if we are willing to commit ourselves to building these character qualities of Barnabas in our lives. Are you ready to become a son or daughter of encouragement? Are you ready to fully surrender to God?