



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation
Unit 2, Lesson 11

Barnabas Encourages the Church

Lesson Aim: To show the importance of encouraging one another.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: Where is a favorite place you have gone on a trip?

GAME: Paul's First Missionary Journey Board Game

THE WORSHIP THE SPIRIT WHO CHANGES US

Read Worship Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook.

THE WORD BARNABAS WAS AN ENCOURAGER

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God sent His angel to rescue Peter from prison.

If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Barnabas and Paul (Circa 46-48 A.D.). Paul is Greek for Saul. **Today, we will see Barnabas encouraged Saul and other believers. To encourage is to give someone hope or to urge someone to do something. The name Barnabas means "Son of Encouragement."** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Acts 9:26-28; 11:22-26; 14:19-23. Find and Highlight Key Verse Acts 11:23 First. Pray. **In Jerusalem, Barnabas encouraged people to accept Saul.** Read Acts 9:26-28. **Soon the church in Jerusalem heard the news about Jesus had spread to the town of Antioch.** Read Acts 11:22-26.

The Holy Spirit told the prophets and teachers of the church in Antioch to set Saul and Barnabas apart for a special work. They sailed to many places to tell people about Jesus. Saul was called Paul. This trip is known as Paul's first missionary journey. (Someone sent on a mission to another land.) **People who did not want to hear about Jesus would plot against Paul and Barnabas, but in each town, many believed. On their way back to Antioch, Paul and Barnabas returned to many of these places to encourage the new believers.** Read Acts 14:19-23.

Point out Antioch. Follow Paul's first missionary journey on a map.

THE WAY YOU CAN ENCOURAGE OTHERS

The believers in Jerusalem were afraid of Saul. **How did Barnabas encourage them?** (He told them how God changed Saul's heart and how Saul was preaching about Jesus.) **Did they trust Saul then?** (Yes.) **Barnabas was a peacemaker. How can you be a peacemaker this week? Is there a new person at your school or church whom you can help feel welcome as Barnabas did with Saul?**

Who did the church in Jerusalem send to Antioch? (Barnabas.) **What does "staying true to Jesus" mean?** (To put Him first in your life and follow His teachings.) **Who has encouraged you to believe in Jesus? Who encourages you to stay true to Jesus? Who can you encourage to stay true to Jesus? Who did Barnabas bring to Antioch?** (Saul.) **How long did Barnabas and Saul stay in Antioch?** (One year.) **What did the people of Antioch call those who follow Jesus?** (Christians.)

What was Saul's new name? (Paul.) **What happened to Paul in Lystra?** (He was stoned and dragged out of the city.) **What happened when the disciples gathered around him?** (He got up and went back into Lystra.) **What happened in Derbe?** (They preached about Jesus and many believed.) **In each town they visited, some people believed and would gather as the church.**

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God's people have always been called to encourage each other. Check out the directions God gave to Moses about Joshua. Reveal Deuteronomy 3:28. Find It First. Highlight. Read. **God chose Moses to encourage Joshua. He chose Barnabas to encourage Paul. Who do you think God has chosen for you to encourage?**

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Note of Encouragement
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Barnabas encouraging Paul
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Food for the Journey

GAME: Going on a Trip

CRAFT: Sandy Cyprus

DISCUSSION: Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Erase It, Then Say It; Balloon Toss

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW