



UNLIKELY HEROES – Pt. 5
The Ministry of Encouragement

New Horizon Church

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Pastor John Raymond

1. Encouragement of _____.

Acts 4:32-37 (NLT), “³²All the believers were **united in heart and mind**. And they felt that **what they owned was not their own**, so **they shared everything** they had. ³³The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God’s great blessing was upon them all. ³⁴There were **no needy people among them**, because those who owned land or houses would sell them ³⁵and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. ³⁶For instance, there was **Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas, which means Son of Encouragement**. He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus. ³⁷He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.”

2. Encouragement of a _____.

Proverbs 12:25 (NLT), “Worry weighs a person down; an encouraging word cheers a person up.”

Proverbs 15:23 (NLT), “Everyone enjoys a fitting reply; **it is wonderful to say the right thing at the right time!**”

Acts 9:23-28 (NLT), “²³After a while some of the Jews **plotted together to kill him**. ²⁴They were watching for him day and night at the city gate so they could **murder** him, but Saul was told about their plot. ²⁵So during the night, some of the other believers lowered him in a large basket through an opening in the city wall. ²⁶When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but **they were all afraid of him**. They **did not believe he had truly become a believer!** ²⁷Then **Barnabas** brought him to the apostles and **told them** how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus and how the Lord had spoken to Saul. **He also told them** that Saul had preached boldly in the name of Jesus in Damascus.” ²⁸So **Saul stayed with the apostles** and went all around Jerusalem with them, **preaching boldly** in the name of the Lord.”

3. Encouragement of _____.

Acts 11:19-24 (NLT), “¹⁹Meanwhile, the believers who had been scattered during the persecution after Stephen’s death traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch of Syria. They preached the word of God, but **only to Jews**. ²⁰However, some of the believers who went to Antioch from Cyprus and Cyrene began preaching to the Gentiles about the Lord Jesus. ²¹The power of the Lord was with them, and **a large number of these Gentiles believed and turned to the Lord**. ²²When the church at Jerusalem heard what had happened, **they sent Barnabas to Antioch**. ²³When he arrived and saw this evidence of God’s blessing, he was filled with joy, and **he encouraged the believers** to stay true to the Lord. ²⁴Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and strong in faith. And **many people were brought to the Lord**.”

4. Encouragement of _____.

Acts 11:25-26 (NLT), “²⁵Then **Barnabas went on to Tarsus to look for Saul**. ²⁶When he found him, he brought him back to Antioch. **Both of them stayed there with the church for a full year**, teaching large crowds of people. It was at Antioch that the **believers were first called Christians**.”

Romans 1:11-12 (NLT), “¹¹For I long to visit you so I can bring you some spiritual gift that will help you grow strong in the Lord. ¹²When we get together, I want to **encourage** you in your faith, but I also want to be **encouraged** by yours.”

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT), “²⁴Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵And let us **not neglect our meeting together**, as some people do, but **encourage one another**, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

1 Thessalonians 5:10-11 (NLT), “**Christ died for us** so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, **we can live with him forever**. ¹¹So **encourage each other** and build each other up, just as you are already doing.”
