

# The source of Encouragement

## Acts 4:31-37

### Acts to this point

- Acts 1 - Jesus ascends
- Acts 2 - Spirit comes – 3000 added
- Acts 3 - Man healed – Gospel preached
- Acts 4 - Peter, John arrested, 5000+
- Acts 5 - Ananias, Sapphira lie to God

### Barnabas – background

- Jewish – reason he was in Jerusalem
- Levite – leader in worship
- Cyprus – living in foreign land
- Cousin of Mark (Col. 4:10)
- Called an "Apostle" (Acts 14:14)

### Barnabas – speculation

- Was follower of Jesus before Pentecost
- Was one of the 70 (Luke 10:1-20)
- Saved on Pentecost
- Writer of book of Hebrews (?)
- Fellow student, with Paul, of Gamaliel(?)

### Lesson #1

**God wants to use your life experiences for His purposes (even the strange stuff)**

### Barnabas – his name

- Joseph – given name, (Gen. 30:24)
- Barnabas – "son of encouragement"
  - given by Apostles,
  - because of actions

### Barnabas – his power

1. Be filled with Holy Spirit (vs. 31)
2. Be one with other believers (vs. 32)
3. Operate in grace (vs. 33)
4. Be willing to share (vs. 34-35)
5. Be concerned with needs of others (vs. 36)

### Lesson #2

**Enjoy the opportunities God gives you to help others. (Even when they are difficult)**



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