

THE IMPACT OF AN ENCOURAGER | ACTS 11:19-26

We want to begin this year on the right foot. As the first month of 2021 comes to an end, we've spent time learning that we should make every Sunday count as we join together to worship. We see that Jesus has commissioned us to be everyday disciple makers. We understand that we need to be people of the Gospel. Those that believe and share that Jesus rescues us while we are weak, ungodly, sinners, and enemies of God. And we are people endowed by the Holy Spirit with powerful gifts, fanning the flame and putting them to use. There is one more challenge. I'd like to challenge you to be encouragers this year. For some of you it may come naturally. For some of you it may be a real struggle. However, the church needs encouragement, and the world needs to see the Holy Spirit working through us. I'd like to point you to an often-overlooked follower of Jesus to answer the question, what does it mean to be an encourager?

1. Being an encourager begins with obedience. Acts 4:36-37, Acts 9:27
2. Being an encourager includes taking chances. Acts 9:26-30, Acts 12:25
3. Being an encourager requires determination. 11:19-26
4. Being an encourager does not always work out according to your plans. Acts 13:13, Acts 15:37-39
5. Being an encourager means trading criticism for encouragement. Acts 9:27, 15:37
6. Being an encourager takes humility. Acts 14:11-15
7. Being an encourager makes an eternal impact. 2 Timothy 4:11, Philemon 23-24