

# NCFI Congress 2016

## Mentoring Workshop: Bible Study

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### Part 1

#### Barnabas: A Biblical Case Study in Mentoring

1. Describe Barnabas' character. (Acts 4:36-37; Acts 11:24; Acts 13:1).
2. Why did Barnabas go from Jerusalem to Antioch? (Acts 11: 19-23)
3. What are likely some of the reasons that Barnabas defended and encouraged Saul? (Acts 9:26-27; Acts 11:24-26)
4. What happened in Antioch? (Acts 11:26-30)
5. Why did the church in Antioch decide to anoint Barnabas & Saul for missionary work? (Acts 13:1-3)
6. What change do you notice in how Barnabas & Saul are described? (Acts 13:2 vs. Acts 13: 43). Whose name is listed first? What do you think happened? How might Barnabas have felt about this? (e.g. Happy & fulfilled? Or... Shamed, jealous, &/or unfulfilled?)
7. What role did Barnabas take? (Acts 14:1, 3, 7; Acts 14:8-15). Although the Bible doesn't tell us the reasons for the reversal in the order of the names in Acts 14:14, what do you think the reason might be? What might this tell us about mentoring and the process of passing on of leadership?
8. What was the topic of disagreement between Barnabas & Paul? (Acts 15: 36-39) What was the immediate result?
  - What was Paul's perspective on Mark's suitability to be a part of the team?
  - Knowing what we do about Barnabas' character, what might have been some of the leadership and mentoring issues from Barnabas' perspective?
  - What eventually became of the relationship between Paul & Mark? (2 Tim 4:11; Phm 1:24) What can this teach us about perseverance in mentoring?
    - *EXTRA (if time available) Are there any divisions in your NCF or with another Christian over emerging leaders? How can you work through this issue in a way that is pleasing to God?*
9. Although Barnabas was known for how he encouraged others, Paul also began to encourage believers, spending longer periods of time in a place specifically for the purpose of encouragement. Discuss (a) the impact that Barnabas (the encourager) may have had on Paul and (b) what happened to Paul when Barnabas was no longer with him? What can this teach us about handing over leadership?