# Barnabas a Flourishing Leader in a Flourishing City!

**KJV Acts 4**:**36** And **Joses**, who was also named **Barnabas** by the **apostles** (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a **Levite** of the country of **Cyprus**, 37 having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the **apostles**'
feet.

**KJV Acts 11:22** Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the **church** which was in **Jerusalem**: and they **sent forth Barnabas**, that he should go as far as **Antioch**. 23 Who, when he came, and had seen **the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. 24** For he was a **good** man, and **full** of the Holy Ghost and of **faith**: and **much people** was added unto the Lord. 25 Then departed **Barnabas** to **Tarsus**, for to seek **Saul**: 26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto **Antioch**. And it came to pass, that a whole year they **assembled themselves with the church,** and taught much people. **And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.**

Flourishing Leaders constantly asked a question "how can we have successful churches in a failing community? "

A flourishing city needs flourishing leaders.

Flourishing leaders grow in their relationship with God and their relationships with people.

🔑 Flourishing leaders will change their assumptions, operations, and applications.

City of God, City of Satan *Robert Linthicum*

**I**

Flourishing cities have flourishing leaders with character.

Barnabas was…

🔑 A **generous man Vs 4:36**

Radical generosity starts in the heart.

We are created in the image of God, Imago Dei.

God is a **generous giver!**

🔑 When we practice generosity, we are godly because we behave and act like God.

🔑 **A good man** and did good works. **Vs 11:24a**

**Love God, with all our heart, our soul, mind, strength and love our neighbor** as we love ourselves**.**

Barnabas **served** the Lord with gladness!

🔑**A man full Holy Ghost** which means, under the influence and led by the Holy Ghost. **Vs 11:24b**

🔑 **A man full of faith** and act on what they believe **Vs 11:24c**

🔑**A man who did the work** of an evangelist **Vs 11:24d**

🔑 Flourishing leaders recognize **lost people** matter to God.

Antioch was a flourishing church in a flourishing city. **Vs 26**

*The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.*

🔑 Flourishing Leaders see **before** others, see **more** than others and **explore further** than others.

🔑 "Lord, open our eyes that we might see!"

**II**

🔑 Flourishing leaders are encouragers in flourishing cities**.**

🔑 Barnabas was a **<u>connector</u>!**

Barnabas brings Paul to Antioch. **Vs 11:25-26**

Barnabas took John Mark after he and Paul separated,. **Acts 15:37**

Barnabas is embedded in Paul's last words. **2 Timothy 4:10-13**

Barnabas is not mentioned in an explicit way.

But Barnabas is in the text in implicit way.

🔑 "There's no telling how we can flourish and what we can achieve, when we don't care who gets the credit."

**III**

A final word to flourishing leaders and flourishing cities. **2 Timothy 4:10-13**

🔑 Demas is gone.

🔑 Luke is here.

🔑 Timothy is coming with John Mark.

🔑 Tychicus I'm a sending out.

Paul under the influence of the Holy Spirit and Barnabas, Paul says…

🔑 Bring me my cloak, I still need covering.

🔑 Bring me my books, I still have things to learn.

🔑 Bring me my parchment and papers, I still have things to give.

🔑 Bring John Mark for he profitable to me, bring the next generation of leaders.

🔑 As flourishing leaders, let's be like Barnabas: Generous leaders, Good leaders, full of the Holy Ghost, full of faith, and encouragers of the next generation of leaders!

🔑 Flourishing leaders will reproduce a flourishing city!

"Flourishing leaders will reproduce long-term sustainable change."

🔑 Barnabas knew how to **stir up** the gift in Paul, and John Mark.

🔑 Flourishing leaders **stir up** the gift that's inside of the next generation of leaders in a flourishing city so we can **grow**!

🔑 Paul then **stirred up** the gift in Timothy, the next generation of leaders!

**KJV** 2 **Timothy 1:6** Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up the gift of God**, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. 7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.