

TRUTH DISCUSSION

INTRODUCTION:

Who has been an encouragement in your life? What are the characteristics of someone who is a good encourager?

TAKE A LOOK AT THE BOOK:

Read Acts 4:36-37

What do we learn about Barnabas in this passage?

If your friends were to nickname you based on your character traits what would you be called "son or daughter of _____"?

Read Acts 9:26-27

Why were the disciples weary of Saul (Paul)?

Jay said "Instead of guilt Barnabas chose to see grace." Why is it hard to spot grace over guilt? What can be done to change how we view people? What aspects of the Gospel play into our view of others?

Read Acts 15:26-31

Barnabas advocates for Mark before his friend Paul. What does this tell us about encouragement and its extent? Is encouragement merely "rah rah rah" or is there something more to encouragement? What is it? (you can talk about advocacy, encouraging one another to do what's right, etc.)

TAKE IT HOME:

What are some things you can do to encourage someone this week?

What does it take to change your view of someone from guilty (or ashes of imperfection) to grace? Is it even possible? Why or why not?

Is there something you need encouragement on in your walk with God? What is it? Can someone in the group agree to encourage you in that?