

(#1) HE DID WHAT HE COULD

Comic book nerd

Avengers – “Earth’s Mightiest Heroes” Captain America, Iron Man, Thor

Defenders – Luke Cage, Danny Rand “Iron Fist”

(#2-#4) Acts 3:1-6 - Peter heals lame man

Such as I have, give I thee

“I gave you what I had”

(#5-#7) Acts 4:32-37 – Barnabas gives what he could

BARNABAS

Not one of the big names, like Peter and John and Paul - ask anyone who Peter was

(#8) Peter’s tombstone: Leader of the Apostles. Lead pastor of first church. Worker of miracles

(#9) John’s tombstone: The beloved one. One of the inner circle. Wrote six books of the Bible. Saw the end-time revelation

(#10) Paul’s tombstone: The world’s greatest missionary. Started dozens of churches. Wrote much of the NT.

(#11) Barnabas’ tombstone: He did what he could. (Not negative)

1. HE GAVE WHAT HE COULD

(#12) Back to Acts 4:36-37 – what he gave

FBCK people give what they can – AWANA, Buildings in Kenya, Eyes on Christ, missionaries – IT IS APPRECIATED!!!!

(#13) A Barnabas gives what he can

Not talking about the tithe – that’s a legal thing

(#14) Contrast to Ananias and Sappharia

The 79-cent pencil box

2. (#15) HE HELPED WHERE HE COULD

Helping the church at Antioch

(#16-17) Acts 11:19-24 – New church at Antioch needed help, so Barnabas went.

He was uniquely qualified, Jewish background (a Levite) but was from Cyprus.

300 miles, 15 days, Stayed there a year, never really went back home

Power of personal connection – Homebuilder’s Class

Vision of planting churches in this area – need people to help in those churches

Need people to help now

“Availability, not ability”

(#18) Acts 11: 29-30 – Carried the relief fund from Antioch back to Jerusalem

Barnabas = son of consolation, son of encouragement

(#19) Acts 13:2 – Sent out on a missionary journey

“Barnabas and Saul” – clear that Saul, or Paul, would be the one to do the heavy lifting – Barnabas was there to get them in the door

3. (#20) HE BELIEVED IN PEOPLE

(#21) Acts 9:27 – Gave Paul a chance – with the church at Jerusalem

Speculation that Barnabas knew Paul from Rabbi school

(#22) Acts 11:25-26 – Gave Paul an opportunity to minister

Work succession plan; Sunday School lesson – Paul-Timothy-Next-Next

(#23) Acts 12:25 – Gave John Mark a chance; took him from Jerusalem to Antioch

John Mark was Barnabas’s nephew

(#24-#25) Acts 15:37-39 Gave John Mark a second chance

Paul and Silas (and Luke and Timothy) go on to do a missions trip.

Mark goes on to chronicle the life and works of Jesus in the book of Mark

From this verse on, Barnabas fades into history, but that’s okay with him.

(#26) Barnabas did what he could

Most of us won’t do the superpower things. We won’t be called to be pastors or pastor’s wives or missionaries. We can still do what we can.

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO BE BARNABAS

Starfish story