



# GROUP ACTIVITY

## Barnabas the Encourager

**BIG IDEA:** God wants us to build His church by encouraging others.

**BIBLE BASIS:** Acts 4:32–37; 9:20–31; 11:19–26

**KEY VERSE:** “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11a (NIV)

### Encourage Stack

**Supplies:** Cups (24 per group), permanent marker

**Set-up:** Write one word from the Bible verse on each cup including the reference. Make 2 sets per group.

**Say:** Today we talked about how it’s easy for people to feel discouraged! God wants every single one of us to encourage and build each other up. God is still building His church today and He wants us to be a part of it by encouraging others and building them up. Let’s take some time to memorize our verse today and build each other up.

**Directions:** Practice saying the memory verse a few times together.

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11a (NIV)

Divide your group into 2 teams. Give them each a set of cups with the full verse on them. (Make sure the cups are mixed up so they are not in order.) Each team will race to stack the cups in a pyramid in the correct order of the verse. Restack the cups and play multiple rounds.

**Say:** Just like we worked together to build the verse pyramid together, God wants us to take the time to build others up around us. Let’s discuss how we can do that.

**Question:** Can you think of a time when someone encouraged you? How did it make you feel?

**Question:** How can you use kind words to lift someone's spirits and make them feel better?

**Question:** How can you help a friend who is feeling sad or down?

**Question:** What are some compliments you can give to make someone feel special and appreciated?

**Question:** How can you share your toys, time, or talents to make others happy?

**Question:** How do small acts of kindness, like holding the door for someone or saying "thank you," encourage people?

**Question:** How can you encourage your family members at home when they're feeling stressed or worried?



# HOMEGUIDE

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

# STRIKE A POSE

## LESSON 9.3



How could you give to, help,  
or encourage someone you know?  
Draw a picture of it.



Who do you know that could use some encouragement? How  
could you be like Barnabas to that person? Write about it.

## THIS WEEK WE LEARNED

BARNABAS THE ENCOURAGER

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KEY VERSE: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." 1 Thessalonians 5:11a (NIV)





Acts 4:32-37. Draw a picture of the story or write to God about your favorite part of the story. Tell Him why you liked it.



Do you feel discouraged? Are you having trouble with something? Write a prayer to God and tell Him about it.

## NEXT WEEK'S LESSON

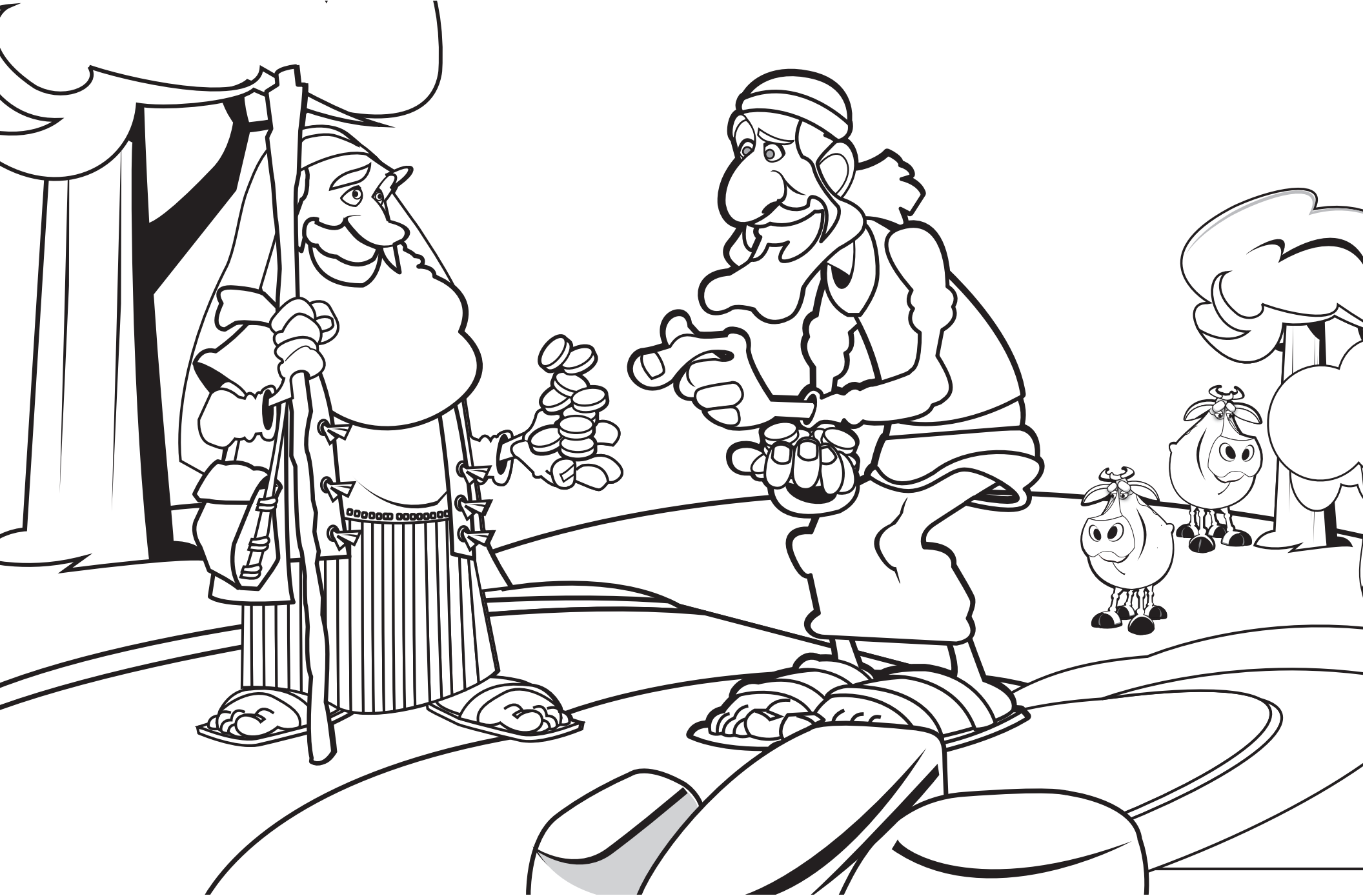
PETER ESCAPES PRISON

BIG IDEA: God hears us when we pray to Him, so we can pray big and bold prayers.

BIBLE BASIS: Acts 12:1-19

KEY VERSE: "Here is what we can be sure of when we come to God in prayer. If we ask anything in keeping with what he wants, he hears us." 1 John 5:14 (NirV)





“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:11a (NIV)