



Barnabas Ministries  
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# The Paraklete

A Publication of Barnabas Ministries

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## Pause With Dawes

By Denny Dawes  
Director, Barnabas Ministries

Consider Exodus 15:26 – He said, *“If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you.”* God reveals one of His names to the people of Israel – ‘Jehovah- Rapha’. This translates as ‘the Lord who heals you.’ Moses has led the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage and is leading them to the Promised Land. The Lord instructs the people how they are to live and He promises to heal and restore them.

I am thankful for God’s healing. In September I was told I had a massive hematoma on my left kidney with pooling blood. The doctors in Portsmouth told me I needed to go to Columbus for surgery and maybe my kidney could be saved. I believe that somewhere between Portsmouth and Columbus during the ambulance ride, the Lord healed that bleeding. Surgery was not needed. After a week in the hospital, I am continuing to recover and gain strength. I am so thankful for the many prayers that have been lifted to heaven on my behalf. The Lord has been so good.

The 121<sup>st</sup> Psalm tells us that our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. We can see that God is the **source of our help**, verses 1-2. We also can see the **strength of our help** in verses 3-4. God will not let your foot slip. He will keep you from falling. He never sleeps or slumbers. I especially like verses 7-8, as we can see the **scope of our help**. The Lord will keep you from all harm. We need to realize that the help from our God is unlimited. We never need to fear that when we come to God for help, He will say, “No, I can’t help you now. You were just here last week.”

We are told that Alex Haley, the author of *Roots*, had an unusual picture hanging on his office wall. It was a picture of a turtle on top of a fence post. When he was asked why he



had that picture he answered, “Every time I write something significant, every time I read my words and think they are wonderful, and every time I begin to feel proud of myself, I look at the turtle on top of the fence post – and remember that he didn’t get there on his

own. He had help.” We must remember that we didn’t get where we are on our own – we must remember that we got where we are with the help of God.



## Winter Worship Workshop

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We look forward to seeing you  
in February! Registration forms  
can be found on our webpage –

**[barnabasohio.com](http://barnabasohio.com)**





## Dots & Dashes From Danny

By Danny Evans  
Associate, Trustee With Barnabas Ministries

### ENCOURAGEMENT

Several years ago, Denny Coburn, founder of Barnabas Ministries, brought up a matter that was heavy on his heart. "What can we do to encourage ministers?" It is something the ministry has tried to address since that time. It was decided to have meetings with ministers and try to help them with matters that may be burdens to them. The meeting gained a title, **'PREACHER RECRUITMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT (P.R.E.S.)**.

The format of these meetings has changed some since they began but the purpose has not changed. We recently conducted one of these P.R.E.S. meetings at the beautiful Woodburn Christian Children's Home, in Woodburn, Indiana. We had 25 attendees and four speakers who shared thoughts of their individual ministries and encouragements that those present could use in their ministries.

So, preachers really need encouragement. After all they are God's spokesmen and besides, they have an easy job!

They preach on Sunday morning and maybe lead a study at another time during the week. How hard is that? I have found that the average person sitting in the congregation does not fully understand what the life of a minister is really like. There is a lot in ministry that goes on behind the scenes.

Why do ministers need encouragement? Because the work of ministry is mentally, emotionally, and spiritually taxing, often involving loneliness, heavy burdens, and constant demands on their time. Having been in ministry for a number of years, I understand this concept completely. When in located ministry, there were times when I just felt I could not go on and thought seriously about quitting. But I had a 'Barnabas' or two in my life and they gave me the encouragement I needed.

When you get the opportunity, speak a word of encouragement to your preacher. I know he will appreciate it.

#### *Something Light-Hearted:*

*How do you encourage a preacher?*

*"That's the spirit!"*

*How do you discourage a preacher?*

*Sleep through his sermon and then tell him how good it was!*



## PREACHER RECRUITMENT & ENCOURAGEMENT SEMINAR

### To Schedule a Meeting Contact:

Denny Dawes (740) 250-4937  
or Larry Boggs (740) 978-8191

Barnabas Ministries wants to recruit and encourage preachers and will provide you with a **FREE** seminar. The seminar schedule will include two speakers, a break, two more speakers, lunch, and a final speaker. If this does not fit with your plans, we are flexible.

Seminars are held on Saturdays. The speakers will present material relating to ministry and to the preacher's family. We are simply interested in encouraging preachers. The host church will provide lunch

and a snack for break time. Barnabas will reimburse the church for all expenses. If you would like to host one of these seminars, please let us know.

#### **Barnabas will provide:**

- The cost of speakers and hotels if needed
- Sessions just for the wives
- A binder for the material given out
- A few other gifts for preachers/wives



## Learning With Larry

By Larry Boggs  
Trustee With Barnabas Ministries

### LIFE IS HARD!

A teacher said to her students, "Boys and girls there is a wonderful example in the life of the ant. Every day the ant goes to work and works all day. Every day the ant is busy, and in the end, what happens?" Little Johnny said, "Someone steps on him."

I'm sure at many times we feel like life has been stepping on us and it can be discouraging. Moses was discouraged by the unfaithfulness of the Israelites. Job was discouraged by the fact he lost everything and couldn't understand why this happened to him. The apostle Paul was discouraged in 2 Corinthians 12 where we read Paul was given a thorn in the flesh to keep him humble.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 – *To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weakness, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

*Don't let Jesus be your co-pilot; put Him in the driver's seat of your life, then see what happens. Life is hard, but God is stronger.*

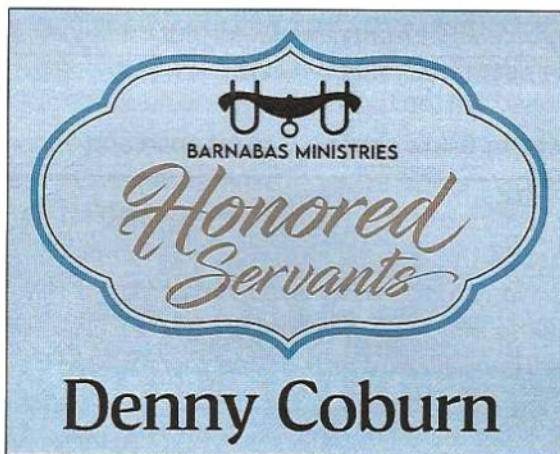
There are times in life when our strength seems to run out, and we just need a time of rest. We know as God's children, life can be hard to bear and our faith is put to the test. The old saying is 'when life gets tough, the tough get going.' My question is, 'where do we go?' The answer is when life gets hard, remember God is so good. God never asked us to be self-sufficient. But like Paul, God asked us to be **grace dependent**. Scripture reminds us that trials are not a sign that God is not present in our lives. James tells us that God uses those hard times to give us the strength to carry on our

ministry. James 1:2-4 – *Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking in anything.*

Jesus himself told us, *In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.* (John 16:33) That means even in life's darkest moments, and it seems like the whole world is miles away from God, we can still have peace and gain strength, not because life is easy, but because Christ is victorious.

So, when life is hard, don't lose hope. Lean more heavily on God's promises. Pray, even when the words are few. Trust the same God who carried you before and will carry you again. I received some very good advice one time – 'Larry, don't let Jesus be your co-pilot; put him in the driver's seat of your life, then see what happens.'

Life is hard, but God is stronger.



Pictured (L-R) are: Denny Dawes, Danny Evans, and Denny Coburn. Denny Coburn received the Honored Servant Award for his years of faithful preaching the gospel and his many other areas of service. Denny founded and preached at Gallipolis, Ohio Christian Church for 29 years. Following his retirement, he established and directed Barnabas Ministries for 24 years. Thank you, Denny, for your many years of faithful service.



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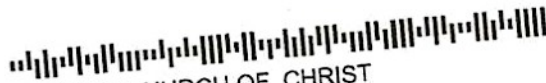
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## ATTENTION!

With ever-increasing printing and postage costs, we plan to move *The Paraklete* to an e-mailable publication. Would you please send your e-mail address to Denny Dawes at: preacherman1971@twc.com

Barnabas Ministries



## Doctrinal Statement

**BIBLE:**  
the only inspired record of God's revelation to us  
**SIN:**  
the only thing standing between God and man  
**JESUS CHRIST:**  
The only perfect One who paid for sin  
**THE GOSPEL:**  
The only record of Jesus' life  
**SALVATION:**  
the only hope for sinful man  
**FAITH:**  
is only "saving faith: if it includes repentance, confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and being baptized as did every convert after the resurrection of Jesus.



## Thanksgiving Snippets

What if, today, we were grateful for everything? ~ Charlie Brown

*As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.* ~ John F. Kennedy

I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens . . . to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. ~ Abraham Lincoln

*May your stuffing be tasty. May your turkey be plump. May your potatoes and gravy have nary a lump. May your yams be delicious. And, your pies take the prize, and may your Thanksgiving dinner stay off your thighs!* ~ Grandpa Jones



We encourage you to support Barnabas Ministries financially. All gifts are used to further the work of the kingdom and to encourage the brethren.