

# Encouraged by the Grace of God



*The*  
**BARNABAS  
FACTOR**



*Realize Your  
Encouragement  
Potential*

**Aubrey Johnson**



People are always more encouraged  
when we share how God's grace  
helped us in weakness than when  
we brag about our strengths.

— Rick Warren —

AZ QUOTES



# **The Lord's Hand was with Them**

- **Scattered after Stephen's martyrdom**
- **Great number—believed & turned**
- **Telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus**
- **Never tire of hearing the gospel**
- **In a time of despair, chaos, mayhem, and destruction=no greater need for good news!**



# Grace in Acts

- **Acts 6:8**--And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.
- **Acts 13:43**--And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.



# Grace in Acts

- **Acts 14:3**--So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.
- **Acts 15:11**—”But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”



# Grace in Acts

- **Acts 20:24**--But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.
- **Acts 20:32**--And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.



# Grace of God

- **Emphasis on gifted action!**
- **What has the grace of God done?**
- **Amazing how that question is answered in the life of the early church!**  
**Conversions, disciples, response to needs, God's active involvement!**





# Paul and Grace

**1 Cor. 15:10**—“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.”



# Encouragement in Light of Grace

- **Glad to see it in action**
- **Remain faithful to the Lord**
- **With steadfast purpose**
- **Teaching and instructing**
- **Identified as Christians**



# Take-away today

- **Awareness of the Lord's hand**
- **Continue in God's grace**
- **Bear witness to His grace**
- **Built up by His grace**
- **Anticipate inheritance by His grace**
- **What has grace done in my life?**
- **I am what I am! Not excuse, appreciation!**