

STAND by me

We were never
meant to go it alone
Or keep company
with fools.

Questions for Individual or Group Study

Week 4 – October 4

Stand by Me: In Community

1. When was the last time you felt encouraged by another person? How did it make you feel or respond?
2. Read Acts 4:32-37. What strikes you about the description of that community?
3. Barnabas is known as the “Son of Encouragement.” The first time he is shown living up to his name is in Acts 9:26-31. How did Barnabas take hold of Saul and offer encouragement to him at this uncertain time in Saul’s life?
4. Think of a time in your life when someone came alongside of you and stood up for you and expressed their belief or confidence in you. How did those actions/words influence your life?
5. What can another person do that would communicate care, concern, and encouragement to you?
6. Barnabas offered encouragement to Paul and others by affirming, being present, and speaking timely words of truth and insight. Of these three, which one most encourages you? Why?
7. Of the three expressions of encouragement listed in the previous question, which one is God inviting you to extend to another person? If appropriate, describe the situation.
8. If you are doing these questions in a small group, how can you as individual members of the group more intentionally come alongside of

each other for the sake of helping one another journey towards a greater degree of Christ-likeness?

9. How can you be more aware of those around you who are in need of some kind of encouragement? Is there anyone specific God is inviting you to serve as a Barnabas to? If so, who is that person(s) and how will you come alongside of them?