

# You Asked For It: Critic or Coach

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Tomara Brown, Associate Minister



## Scripture

Acts 11:18-26

## Featured Verses

“When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.” -- Acts 11:23-24

## Additional Scripture

Hebrews 10:24-25; Proverbs 27:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; 1 Corinthians 14:31

## What is a Barnabas?

A Barnabas is an encourager (a coach) who exercises a powerful influence on people. To encourage simply means “to put courage in”. It means the imputing or infusion of power or advice or inspiration that makes another person perform better.

## How to be a Barnabas

1. Allow people to grow
2. Affirm the capability you see in others
3. Point people towards the opportunities
4. Speak prophetically to one another
5. Be committed to Christian Community

## Quotes from John Wooden, Legendary UCLA Basketball Coach

“Because in the practice room, as on the practice court, it’s less about whether we are perfect or imperfect. It’s more about making sure we’re growing and learning from day to day.”

“A Good Coach is someone who can give correction without resentment.”

“You can’t let praise or criticism get to you. It’s a weakness to get caught up in either one.”

## Questions

1. Who has been a great coach for you and why?
2. Who needs coaching/encouragement in your circles of influence?
3. To whom do you need to be less critical?
4. How do you need to grow in your encouragement of your family, friends and circles of influence?



### Group Life @ Middletown

If you are interested in taking part in a sermon-based discussion group or other small group, visit [middletownchristian.org](http://middletownchristian.org) or contact Tracy Spann, [tspann@middletownchristian.org](mailto:tspann@middletownchristian.org) to learn more.

## Middletown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

500 N. Watterson Trail • Louisville KY 40243  
502.245.9793 • [MiddletownChristian.org](http://MiddletownChristian.org)