

# **Acts Lesson 16 HANDOUT**

**LAST BIBLE STUDY: May 24**

**BIBLE STUDY RESUMES: AUGUST 23**

**Acts 4:36 Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement),**

**37 sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.**

**John 16:33**

**33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."**

**1 Peter 4:12**

**12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.**

**John 15:20**

**20 Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.**

**James 1:2**

**2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,**

**Acts 7:57–58**

**57 But they raised a great shout and put their hands over their ears and rushed together upon him.**

**58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.**

**Acts 8:1–3**

**1 AND SAUL was [not only] consenting to [Stephen's] death [he was pleased and entirely approving]. On that day a great and severe persecution broke out against the church which was in Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.**

**2 [A party of] devout men with others helped to carry out and bury Stephen and made great lamentation over him.**  
**3 But Saul shamefully treated and laid waste the church continuously [with cruelty and violence]; and entering house after house, he dragged out men and women and committed them to prison.**

#### **Acts 9:1–4**

**1 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest**

**2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.**

**3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.**

**4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"**

#### **Acts 9:26–29**

**26 When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple.**

**27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus.**

**28 So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.**

**William Arthur Ward wrote: "Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I will not forget you."**

**Mary Kay Ash: "Pretend that every single person you meet has a sign around his or her neck that says, 'Make Me Feel Important.'**

**Hebrews 10:24–25 (NIV84)**

**24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.**

**25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.**

**Acts 15:36-41**

**36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the brothers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."**

**Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.**

**"Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry 2 Tim. 4:11**

**Florence Littauer - Silver Boxes: the Gift of Encouragement.**

**Do you know someone who has:**

**A song waiting to be sung?**

**Some art waiting to be hung?**

**A piece waiting to be played?**

**A scene waiting to be staged=**

**A tale waiting to be told?**

**A book waiting to be sold?**

**A rhyme waiting to be read?**

**A speech waiting to be said?**

**If you do, don't let them die with the music still in them.**



**A Friend in Blue**

"Everything he did for me has been life-changing," says Duncan (right) with Cpl. Keffer—and his new 2003 VW Passat.

boxes for a nutritional-supplement company to his home in Vallejo. Keffer offered the teen a ride home and on the way learned that Duncan was working to help his parents and earn money to go to college. "When he got out of the car, I just had to shake his hand," Keffer, 45, recalls. "I told him I admired his work ethic and there was nothing he couldn't accomplish."

But Keffer wanted to do more too. "It's not always about crime and punishment," he says. "We're out to improve people's quality of life whenever we can." Two days later the 11-year law-enforcement veteran and several of his fellow officers showed up at Duncan's workplace with a \$500 mountain bike they'd purchased to make his commute easier. "I was stunned and flabbergasted," says Duncan. The officers also launched a GoFundMe page to help raise money for college tuition and to repair Duncan's car. Within three days \$10,000 had poured in—and the amount now stands at \$47,000. "A lot of people have been thanking me," says Keffer. "It reminds me why I got into this job in the first place."

In January Duncan, who hopes to someday become a member of the California Highway Patrol, began taking criminal-justice classes at Solano Community College. He's also used some of the GoFundMe money to buy a 2003 VW Passat. "I still can't believe any of this," says Duncan. "All this just makes me want to push myself even harder to make people proud." ●

**People** | HEROES AMONG US

# An Officer's Good Deed

THANKS TO POLICE CORPORAL KIRK KEFFER, A ROUTINE PEDESTRIAN STOP BECAME A LIFE-CHANGING MOMENT FOR JOURDAN DUNCAN

By **JOHNNY DODD**

Jourdan Duncan worried he "was in trouble" late one night last September when he turned around to find a police cruiser pulling up behind him on a deserted street in Benicia, Calif. "Where you walking to?" Benicia police corporal Kirk Keffer asked. Duncan, then 18, explained that he was doing what he did every night: walking the seven miles from his job packing

