

## Origin Stories 6: “Apostle of Another Chance” ~ Acts 9:26-27, 11:19-26, 13:1-3, 15:36-41

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### First Things First:

- The Barnabas mentioned throughout our lesson is the same Levite from Cyprus who sold a field and laid the money he received at the Twelve Apostles’ feet
  - Saul of Tarsus who will eventually be call Paul by the end of our lesson had been an accomplice to Stephen’s murder, a bully who threatened to kill believers in the way and a Pharisee who got permission from the High Priest to arrest any believers he found
  - John Mark is a cousin of Barnabas (See Colossians 4:10) and the only gospel writer who was not one of Jesus’ Twelve Main Disciples; eleven of which become the Primary Twelve Apostles
  - Apostle simply means a person sent by another. However, it was initially given to the Twelve Apostles of Christ who were charged with governing the new fellowship of believers of Jesus Christ. Overtime, the term was applied to other high-ranking Church teachers like Paul, Barnabas, Silas & Silvanus
1. Do you believe protestant denominations that use the term Apostle for their highest-ranking clergy are making the right choice or do you believe the term should only be used for Biblical figures? Explain your answer.

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2. Why is it hard to trust co-workers again after they suddenly leave other co-workers to finish a job without prior warning?

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### Let’s Get After It:

3. Now that we’ve read the lesson, what are your first impressions of the text?

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4. How does Barnabas model Jesus’ ministry of mentoring and advocating for people whom others would deem unworthy of attention?

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5. Why do you think Barnabas wouldn’t back down from giving John Mark another chance to serve?

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6. What kinds of things would you expect a person gifted with the ministry of encouragement to say to or do with people that others believe can’t be reached, redeemed, redirected or trusted?