

*When (Saul) came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. 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. So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. He talked and debated with the Hellenistic Jews, but they tried to kill him. When the believers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers. **Acts 9:26-31 (NIV)***

WHAT KEEPS US FROM TAKING A RISK ON PEOPLE?

1. _____ KEEPS US FROM TAKING A RISK
2. _____ KEEPS US FROM TAKING A RISK
3. _____ KEEPS US FROM TAKING A RISK

WHEN WE HAVE THE CHANCE TO TAKE A RISK ON SOMEONE:

- _____ says "they might hurt you."
- _____ says "they probably haven't changed"
- _____ says "they will hurt you and they will never change."

HOW WE CAN BE A BARNABAS FOR OTHERS

1. FIRST, TAKE THE _____ TO _____ THEIR STORY
2. _____ THE FACTS
 - Has _____ occurred?
 - Is there a willingness to _____
_____?
 - Is there evidence of a _____?
3. TRUST IN GOD'S _____