

**NBC Devotional**  
**August 25, 2022**  
**“The Importance of Encouragement”**

Dr. Gary Haines was our NBC Chapel speaker today. His message was entitled *“The Importance of Encouragement.”* He brought out how we see encouragement given among sports’ teams – how football, baseball, and hockey teams encourage each other by jumping up and down together, holding up the trophy, huddling around each other, and congratulating each other.

Dr. Haines told of being a 13-year-old baseball catcher on a team, and because he couldn’t run because of his polio, they allowed a pinch runner for him. What an encouragement!

He told of his time as a student at NBC and how professor Mrs. Audrey Williamson encouraged him one time when he didn’t understand something in scripture. She explained it to him. What an encouragement!

The Bible tells us that encouragement is necessary. *“Encourage one other”* (Hebrews 3:13).

1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, *“Encourage one another and build each other up...”*

Barnabas, in the early church, encouraged the church to accept Paul and advocated for Mark to be given a second chance. He lived up to his name which means “son of encouragement.”

We must never lose our passion for what we are doing, for it is for the Lord.

Dr. Gary Haines