

Exhorter Redemptive

Biblical

Romans 12:8-Exhortation

paraklesis (παράκλησις, 3874), means “a calling to one’s side” (para, “beside,” kaleo, “to call”); hence, either “an exhortation, or consolation, comfort,” e.g., Luke 2:25 (here “looking for the consolation of Israel” is equivalent to waiting for the coming of the Messiah); 6:24; Acts 9:31; Rom. 15:4–5; 1 Cor. 14:3, “exhortation”; 2 Cor. 1:3, 4–7; 7:4, 7, 13; 2 Thess. 2:16; Philem. 7. In 2 Thess. 2:16 it combines encouragement with alleviation of grief. The rv changes “consolation” into “comfort,” except in Luke 2:25; 6:24; Acts 15:31; in Heb. 6:18, “encouragement”; in Acts 4:36, “exhortation.” rv (kjb, consolation”). See consolation, encouragement, exhortation, entreaty.¹

Characteristics

Has the ability to cross every kind of barrier (social, racial, economic, and religious) and relate to people wherever they are

Is horizontal in his focus and intensely people-oriented

Has never met a stranger

Has the ability to share his faith easily and in difficult situations

Has a big vision for reaching the world

Most world-changers in world and religious history were exhorters

Is capable of having disagreements without alienating others

Is skilled in creating and sustaining relationships at all costs

Enjoys being around people. Is extroverted, outgoing, a party looking for someplace to happen

Is a master communicator

Teaches from real life examples and is very practical

Does teamwork well. Is a great networker

Is very flexible and quick to see opportunities

Is willing to abandon their plan to go for a new opportunity

Is not intimidated by new ideas and new truth

Is a visionary

Tends to see a broader picture, the largest number, etc.

Can seem superficial due to their light-hearted attitude and ability to work a crowd

Tends to govern by relationship, persuasion, and majority opinion of people, not by principle

Tends to start things and move on

Is attuned to the feelings of people and the timeframe needed for them to embrace a new idea

¹ Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). In [Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words](#) (Vol. 2, pp. 110–111). T. Nelson.



Is tactful and able to speak to people in a gracious way to bring them along
Is a master of reconciliation
Is concerned with communicating God to people.
Gets to know who God is, then communicates Him to people
Will open his heart and be vulnerable in order to open the hearts of others
Struggles with a lack of discipline with time
Has wonderful intentions, but often falls short in the tyranny of the urgent
Sees spiritual lessons in personal pain and suffering
Struggles with not being willing to risk offense, alienation, or rejection
The immature exhorter is unwilling to confront sin
A righteous exhorter will hold a high standard of holiness and bring those around him to that same standard
Works hard and is intensely busy
Functions on little sleep. Is involved in many projects
Can surround himself with people willing to cover for his weaknesses
Seems to be very creative
Party looking for a place to happen
Instant rapport with strangers
Highly relational
Has ability to understand and relate well to others
Able to move easily from small talk to sharing the gospel
Able to maintain relationship although may solidly disagree with other party
Can have loud argument without alienation of other person
Master communicator
Flexible – able to abandon a plan easily
Visionary
Seeks the approval of others
Dramatic and often melodramatic
Natural leader
High-energy person
Obsessive-compulsive verbal expressive
Loves change
Governs by persuasion rather than principle

Major Weaknesses

People-pleasing.
Unwilling to confront because of fear of rejection
Poor time management. Tends to take on too much
May settle for doing what is good, instead of God's best
Does not suffer rejection well



Biblical example of Exhorter –

Barnabas is an outstanding portrayal of the exhorting gift, and of how that gift worked in partnership with his apostleship:

1. “Barnabas” means “*son of encouragement or consolation*” (Acts 4:36).
2. Exhorters ***have an encouraging message***, that is, to follow the Lord purposefully (Acts 11:22-24).
3. The exhorter’s message ***strengthens the souls of the believers*** and urges them to continue in the faith (Acts 14:20-22).
4. Exhorters are generally positive about people and ***do not easily give up on them***, even when others have (Acts 9:26, 27).
5. Exhorters have an ability to discern where people are in their spiritual growth and to speak to them on that level (Acts 11:22-24).
6. It is important for an exhorter to maintain ***a positive attitude***.
7. If Barnabas had not exhorted the apostles to accept Saul (Paul), or exhorted Paul to accept Mark, ***almost half of the New Testament -the Gospel of Mark and the Epistles of Paul -might never have been written!*** (See Acts 15:37-39 and 2 Timothy 4:11).

Paul, Silas - Acts 15:22-40; 16:25-29; 17:4, 19-15; I Peter 5:12. Titus - 2 Corinthians 2:13; 7:6,13-14; 8:6-23; 12:18; Gal 2:1-3; 2 Tim 4:10. Aaron, Gibeon. Moses

Observations:

As teaching is directed to the understanding, ***exhortation is directed at the heart***, conscience and will. This gifting, working through a believer, will cause him to ***urge others to their full spiritual maturity***. The operation of this gift is often directed toward those who are in difficult circumstances and suffering affliction.

The Motivational Gift of Exhortation works well in ***partnership with other gifts***, such as teaching, and the prophetic and apostolic ministry gifts (1 Tim 4:13; Titus 1:9; 1 Cor 14:3).

An exhorter will arouse and motivate both individual believers and the Church as a whole to ***patient endurance, brotherly love, and good works*** (Heb 3:13; 10:23-25). Exhorters will have a great ability to ***stimulate the faith and personal growth of others***.

Discernment

