

The following letter was written by Charlie Williams, Ministry to Men Director. After many requests for him to write a book about *Ministry to Men* and after several attempts to do just that, someone suggested he simply write letters sharing some of the truths God has been teaching him during the years.

We will be posting his letters on the Ministry to Men Web site. This letter was posted on November 15, 2010

Letter 17 Timothy-Paul-Barnabus

Psalm 126:5, 6

I remember when God was directing my life to leave the business world and accept an opportunity to go on staff with a business men's ministry I had been very involved in for over ten years.

As I met with a number of different men to get their counsel on what I was thinking about and praying about; a couple of these meetings stand out to me today.

The first one was three men that I trusted to tell me what they were hearing as they spoke to others about this change in my life. They told me that it wouldn't work because of a lack of money and the lack of wanting a director of the Metro St. Louis ministry. Normally I would have said well that settles it, it won't work. But I came away from that meeting thanking God that if it was going to work, He would have to do it. I didn't totally understand at that time, and still really don't, how important that choice was in my life. As much later on He gave me the desire to continue to do things that were guaranteed to fail unless He did it.

Another man I met with was Max Webb, a long time friend of mine from Kansas City whom I would report to if I became Metro Director for St. Louis. Max took me to Psalm 126: 5,6 and asked me to read it. When I finished he asked me 'when was the last time I wept for a man'. As we talked and prayed together about what those verses say I began to realize what those verses say I began to realize that God had not given me the gift of tears but He had given me a heart for men. That was such a great time.

Who do you have in your life that will tell you the truth and love you?

Do you have any Barnabus' in your life? Are you a Barnabus in someone else's life?