

Book of Acts: the ripple effect

Pastor Lance Ainsworth
Acts 11:19-30

MESSAGE NOTES

Thursday, Jan 29
Sunday, Feb 1

Introduction

notes

Acts 11:19-30

¹⁹So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone. ²⁰But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. ²¹And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord.

Up to this point in Acts, the church has been growing in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria; next is to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Jesus - Disciples - Barnabas - Stephen - Paul
- Antioch - First Missionaries sent. (Acts 13)

²²The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch. ²³Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; ²⁴for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

The Church grows through encouragement.

²⁵And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; ²⁶and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

The church grows through the teaching of the Bible.

²⁷Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius. ²⁹And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. ³⁰And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.

The church grows through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Book of Acts: The Ripple Effect
GateWay Church of Visalia, Pastor Lance Ainsworth
Acts 11:19-30, January 29th & February 1st, 2026
Lessons from Antioch

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: Who is your go to?

Read Aloud: Acts 11:19-30

1. v.20-21 “20But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord.” What does it mean to preach the Lord Jesus? How does this message relate across all cultures?
2. v.23 “Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;” Where do you need to courage in your life right now? What stops you from doing courageous things for the Lord? Who does God want you to encourage?
3. v.26 “and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” What has God been teaching you through His word lately? How is teaching different than preaching? Why do we need both?
4. v.28 “And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea.” What can we learn from the church in Antioch’s willingness to be led by the Holy Spirit? Have you felt the Holy Spirit’s leading before to fill a need? Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you?