



ACTS SERIES

POWER OF THE UNEXPECTED

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CONNECT GROUP
DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS

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READ | Acts 11

This week we take a look into Acts 11 and see that there were 3 unexpected events that take place:

An Unexpected MOVEMENT Acts 11:1 – 21

An Unexpected PERSON Acts 11:19 – 26

An Unexpected GIFT Acts 11:27 – 30

Ultimately when God does the unexpected in our lives, it is to remind us that He is absolutely sovereign and that He is truly in control of anything and everything that happens in and around us. Isaiah 55:8 – 9 teaches us that His ways are not our ways, and His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. Through each of the three unexpected events that take place in Acts 11, God repeatedly shows the early church what the unexpected looks like and how to go along with God's flow when He does the unexpected in our lives.

ASK |

1. What has God done that has been unexpected in your life? Have there been any unexpected movements (or happenings), unexpected people or an unexpected gift that came your way? How did you respond to this unexpected event?

2. Relate any experiences you have had with helping new Christians grow in their relationship with Jesus. What qualities are needed to help someone along in his or her new walk with Jesus? Did someone disciple you as a new believer? If you can, share a "Barnabas" experience.

3. Take some time to consider the 5 practical handles that help us navigate through the unexpected things that happen in our lives. When God does the unexpected, we must:

- KNOW that God deepens our attachment to Him through testing
- TRUST that God will comfort us with His limitless strength
- BELIEVE that God will make a way for us to overcome
- LOOK for the opportunities that God is showing us in the midst of pressures
- LET God take our physical limitations and turn them into spiritual launching points

What unexpected thing might you be going through today? Which of the 5 handles do you particularly struggle with and why do you think that struggle is there?