



The Book of Acts:

Holy Spirit Adventures

Passage: Acts 13:1-3

The Book of Acts – A call to see the Spirit move again and again in every generation

Introduction

Enjoy the Table Talk video with Pastor Jon [here](#).

In the Table Talk Pastor Jon said about Antioch that *“the archetype... for what’s going to last forever was established in this church.”* What’s your reaction to that statement? How are you comfortable or uncomfortable with the model of Antioch in its dynamism and diversity?

Unpacking the Sermon

1. Acts 11:19 “Now those who had been scattered... traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word...”

In Acts 11:19&20 everyday people were ‘spreading the word’. That’s how the church in Antioch got started. What does ‘spreading the word’ look like for us?

2. Acts 11:20 “Some... went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus.”

Pastor Jon reminded us of the meaning of ‘the good news’ from Acts 2. Jesus is real and fulfilled everything written about him in the bible. This means “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Discuss the fullness of that message. What are the key elements that we should be sure to include?

3. Acts 11:21 “The Lord’s hand was with them...”

Antioch shows us what church can be like if we listen to and participate with God in his work. The Spirit was at work and the gifts of the Spirit were evident. What spiritual dynamics in that community stand out to you? What’s your reaction to the idea that our unity is in the Spirit, not among ourselves?

4. Acts 11:26 “The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.”

The term ‘Christian’ or ‘little Christ’ was meant as an insult. But it is a good description of who we should be as disciples. At Sanctus, we speak of being ‘fully devoted followers’. What emphases should flow out of that in our daily living?

APPLICATION

“Faithfulness is what gets rewarded.” As we start 2024, our Discipleship Self-Assessment tool (on our website go to ‘Next Steps’ under the ‘What’s Next’ tab) can help us review our priorities and practices so we can more faithfully follow Jesus. Discuss the Discipleship Assessment. Did you complete it? How is God speaking to you through it? Discuss possible action steps – there are suggestions under each of the five areas on the ‘Next Steps’ web page. How can you as a group encourage each other to follow through on action steps?

Prayer:

Thank you Jesus for the example of your work in Antioch and for the privilege that you call us individually to be fully devoted followers. Please help each of us to understand how you are leading us to walk closer to you in 2024 and serve you better. Forgive us for the distractions that can muddle our lives. Please give extraordinary spiritual direction to individuals across Sanctus about our next steps with you. Amen

Have questions about the sermon? Email us: groups@sanctuschurch.com