

A Church That Changed The World!

Acts 13:1-3

Acts 13:1: Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers:

church:

Greek - **Ekklesia**

Called out ones

Acts 11:21: And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

Acts 13:1: Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers:

Prophets are those who by the Holy Spirit, help guide the church as they speak the Heart of God.

Teachers are those who help ground and equip the church as they teach the Word of God.

Acts 13:1: Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

Barnabas

1. Encourager (Joseph)
2. Generous giver
3. Available
4. Good man
5. Full of the Holy Spirit
6. Full of faith
7. Sought out others not engaged and drew them into serving the Lord together

Simeon who was called **Niger** (black)

Lucius of Cyrene

Manaen who had been **brought up** with **Herod the tetrarch**.

Manaen grew up in **Herod's** vile, polluted family. And yet the Lord **rescued** him and **saved** him and **called** him to the ministry.

Saul: Who became the Apostle Paul. Here **Saul** is mentioned **last** under the leadership of Barnabas. You never really know who is among us being pouring into! Paul wrote 13 New Testament books!

Acts 13:2: As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

NIV: While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting

Acts 13:2: As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said (spoke), "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul..."

How did Holy Spirit speak? In context it was probably through the gift of prophecy.

Romans 12:6: Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophecy in proportion to our faith.

1 Corinthians 14:1: Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

1 Corinthians 14:3: But he who prophesies speaks strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

Acts 13:2: As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "**Now** separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

Acts 9:15-16: He is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake.

Now meant there was to be no delay! The timing of the Lord is always so important!

Antioch was a church **marked** by...

1. A Leader drew others into leadership
2. An abundance of leaders (diversity and unity)
3. Leaders who first ministered to the Lord
4. Fasting
5. Praying
6. Teaching the Word of God
7. Prophecy: the Holy Spirit was speaking
8. People called to the work of the Lord
9. Sensitivity to timing
10. Laying on of hands
11. Missionaries being sent out

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What is the work that God is calling me to do?

Ephesians 2:8-10: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

What is the work that God is calling me to do?

1 Corinthians 15:58: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Hebrews 6:10: For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.