



ACTS

The Church Empowered
for Mission



CALL TO WORSHIP

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

-John 15:4-5

ACTS 13:1-13

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

ACTS 13:1-13

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. 6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.

ACTS 13:1-13

9 But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord. 13 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perge in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem,



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MARKS OF A GOSPEL-DRIVEN CHURCH: 1. A CHURCH THAT LISTENS TO THE SPIRIT VS. 1-3

multi-ethnic leadership Jewish Cypriot

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas,

Ethiopian from Africa Cyrene = North Africa Half bro w/ Herod Antipas
Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend

of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord

Fasting = deep spiritual concern to set aside hungers to seek what God wants
and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for

the work to which I have called them." 3 Then after fasting and praying

Healthy Churches = Sending Churches (sending the best)
they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Working for the Lord without worship = legalistic self-exalted service

Worship devoid of works of service = external godliness but devoid of power.



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MARKS OF A GOSPEL-DRIVEN CHURCH: 2. A CHURCH THAT GOES WHERE THE SPIRIT SENDS VS. 4-5

Simple Obedience → Port of Antioch

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and

130 mi. journey

from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they arrived at Salamis, they

Rmns. 1:16

proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had

John Mark: Barnabas younger cousin (Col. 4:10); Pens Gospel of Mark

John to assist them.

If God sends you, He will sustain you.



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MARKS OF A GOSPEL-DRIVEN CHURCH: 3. A CHURCH THAT DOESN'T FOLD UNDER OPPOSITION VS. 6-8

capital city of Cyprus

6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was

“son of Jesus/salvation”

with the proconsul, Roman official Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned

Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the For proclaiming Christ crucified for sinners magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to

Every open door to a gospel convo. has an active adversary
turn the proconsul away from the faith.



MARKS OF A GOSPEL-DRIVEN CHURCH:

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4. A CHURCH THAT TRUSTS THE SPIRIT'S POWER TO OVERCOME OPPOSITION VS. 9-12

9 But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making **Heresy opposes righteousness & aims to confuse the things of God** crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of

Heart hardened to sin the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about **Heart regenerated from sin** seeking people to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed,

when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

Don't carry burdens that belong only to God. Our role in God's Kingdom is faithfulness, not results.



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MARKS OF A GOSPEL-DRIVEN CHURCH: 5. A CHURCH THAT REMAINS FAITHFUL WHEN MINISTRY GETS MESSY VS. 13

13 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem,

175 mi. journey

People will disappoint you. Leaders will fail you. Your plans will fall apart. Friends will walk away. Things will get messy. But Jesus will not—He is the same yesterday, today, & forever (Heb. 13:8).

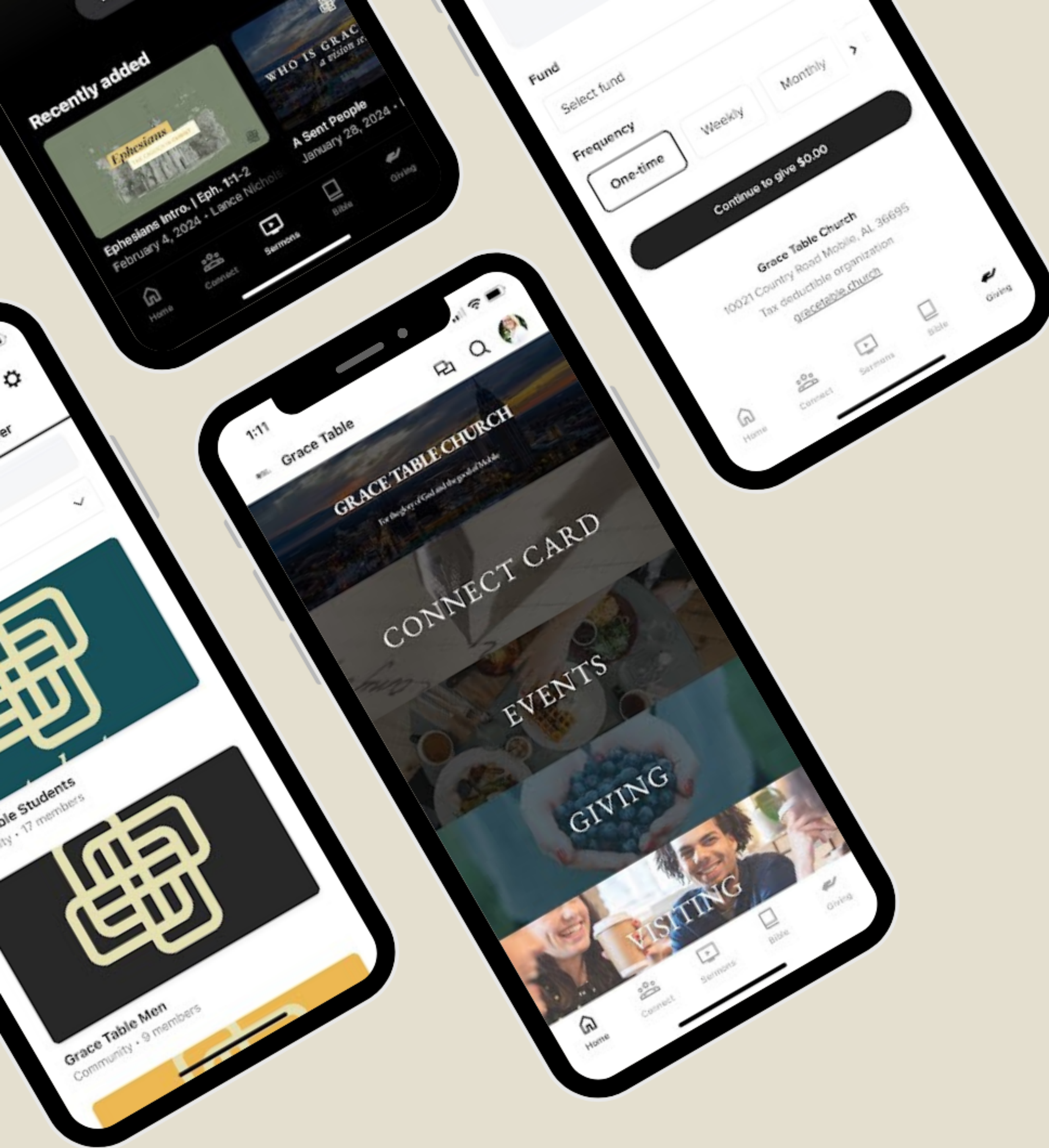




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TABLETALK

A Grace Table Family Meeting



DEC. 7TH | IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE



BENEDICTION

Leader:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

-2 Corinthians 13:14

People:

And also with you.



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