

The Traits of a Healthy Church

Pastor Jack Lamb

Sunday, January 8th, 2023

Acts 11:19 - 11:30 (LSB)

19 So 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. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and *began* speaking to the Greeks also, proclaiming the good news of the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 Now the news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch, 23 who, when he arrived and saw the grace of God, rejoiced and *began to* encourage them all with a purposeful heart to remain *true* to the Lord; 24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a considerable crowd was brought to the Lord. 25 And he left for Tarsus to search for Saul; 26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. And it happened that for an entire year they met with the church and taught a considerable crowd. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. 27 Now in those days, some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 And one of them named Agabus stood up and indicated by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the *reign* of Claudius. 29 And as any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send *a contribution* for the service of the brothers living in Judea. 30 And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.

3. _____ God's Leading (vv. 27-30)

Sermon Application Questions

- 1. *Why is evangelism every member's responsibility?*
- 2. *What have you learned from another Christian? Share an example.*
- 3. *Looking back to when you first started following Christ, what do you wish someone had told you?*
- 4. *What is the most surprising thing about following Christ to you?*
- 5. *How can we discover our gifts?*
- 6. *What is our responsibility in terms of giving to help the poor? How far abroad do we apply this?*