

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: A Church is Generous

Message Text: Acts 11:26-30

Introduction:

The church at Antioch was used by God to publish the Gospel far and wide into the Gentile world. It was planted as a result of persecution that drove believers from Jerusalem, the preaching of the Gospel to the Gentiles in Antioch and the power of God moving hearts to revive Jesus Christ by faith. The church at Jerusalem sent one of their most beloved members, Barnabas, to Antioch to edify the new believers in the faith. Their growth in Christ was so obvious that the people of Antioch began to call them Christians. Christlikeness marked their behavior even in the way they began to respond to needs and how they expressed generosity.

1. They were _____ to the Holy Spirit (27-28)

Acts 11:27–28 And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. 28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

DEFINITION—PROPHET: a forth teller

BY THE SPIRIT — led of the Holy Spirit





NOTE—Josephus describes such a famine that took place in Judea in 46AD (KJSB)

1 Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

QUOTE: Obey every prompting of the Holy Spirit of God.

2. They were _____ to the Needs of Believers (29)

Acts 11:29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

NOTE — Judaea was 310+ miles away

THE DISCIPLES — committed followers of Jesus Christ

DEFINITION—DETERMINED: to determine (plan); to decide upon and delineate the outcome or nature of something definitely.

DEFINITION—RELIEF: assistance; the activity of helping especially as it relates to a person's sustenance.

DEFINITION—ABILITY: to be prosperous; to be or become marked by being in fortunate circumstances financially.

2 Corinthians 8:12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

3. They were _____ to Follow Through (30)

Acts 11:30 Which also they <u>did</u>, and <u>sent</u> it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

NOTE — elder is used as another title for pastor in the New Testament. (See Acts 20:17, 28)

Titus 1:5–7 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

NOTE — They entrusted Barnabas and Saul with the relief offering and commissioned them to deliver it to the elders in Jerusalem.

2 Corinthians 9:1–4 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you: 2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many. 3 Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready: 4 Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we (that we say not, ye) should be ashamed in this same confident boasting.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Conclusion

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

MY MISSIONS INVESTMENT

I am personally engaging in the mission of Christ by financially investing through my church's missions program.



I am BEGINNING to invest in missions for the first time through my church

Amount per week \$_____



I am INCREASING my missions investment through my church

Increase per week \$_

Indicate if giving Obi-monthly Omonthly

I want to take the 90 DAY TITHE CHALLENGE
I ALREADY invests in missions regularly

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

I understand this constitutes a promise between me and God. I also understand that I will not be contacted if for some reason I am unable to keep this commitment.

MY MISSIONS INVESTMENT

I am beginning to invest in missions for the first time through my church

Amount per week \$

I am increasing my missions investment through my church

Increase per week \$_

○ bi-monthly ○ monthly

I want to take the 90 DAY TITHE CHALLENGE
I ALREADY invests in missions regularly

DETACH THIS PORTION

Please place this portion in the offering plate.

