

SC Church 6.21.2026

The Church Jesus Built
Bigger than Us

- A. Intro: Do you realize the impact of your faithfulness?
- B. Big Idea: Hundreds of people will be impacted by our Faithfulness to God!
- C. Scripture: Acts 13:1-4 NLT – Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called “the black man”), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul. ²One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them.” ³So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.
- D. What happens when we are Faithful?
 - a. People see an Example to Follow
 - i. Acts 22:4 NLT – ⁴And I persecuted the followers of the Way, hounding some to death, arresting both men and women and throwing them in prison.
 - ii. 1 Corinthians 15:9 NLT – ⁹For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I’m not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God’s church.
 - iii. 1 Timothy 1:15 NLT – ¹⁵This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”—and I am the worst of them all.
 - iv. 1 Corinthians 11:1 NIV – Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.
 - b. People lean in to Follow Jesus like Us
 - i. Barnabas
 - 1. He was a Giver
 - a. Acts 4:36-37 NLT – ³⁶For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means “Son of Encouragement”). He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus. ³⁷He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.
 - 2. He was Full of Faith
 - a. Acts 11:22-24 NLT – ²²When the church at Jerusalem heard what had happened, they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³When he arrived and saw

this evidence of God's blessing, he was filled with joy, and he encouraged the believers to stay true to the Lord. ²⁴ Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and strong in faith. And many people were brought to the Lord.

3. He was Compassionate

- a. Acts 15:36-39 NLT – ³⁶ After some time Paul said to Barnabas, "Let's go back and visit each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are doing." ³⁷ Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark. ³⁸ But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in their work. ³⁹ Their disagreement was so sharp that they separated. Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus.

c. Accountability keeps you and others on the Right Path

- i. Proverbs 27:17 NLT – ¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.
- ii. Hebrews 10:24 NLT – ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.
- iii. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 NLT – ¹¹ So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

E. How can I maximize what God is doing in His Church?

- a. Live Surrendered
- b. Be Obedient to God's Word
- c. Step out in Faith

F. Close: Who are you being sent to?

- a. Next Steps
 - i. Memorize: Proverbs 27:17 NLT – ¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.
 - ii. Think: Do I realize my example is impacting others around me?
 - iii. Action: Stay the Course! Follow Jesus! Be Faithful!