



The Church Led by the Holy Spirit: Evidence of the Grace of God Acts 11:1 - 30

Study Notes Handout: Week Nineteen

When (Barnabas) arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. - Acts 11:23

The BIG IDEA in Acts is how the good news of Jesus Christ invaded earth and, beginning with the Jews in Jerusalem, triumphed over sin and darkness among all peoples one culture at a time. We know we are part of His story when we see evidence of God's grace in those He has saved.

What are the evidences of the grace of God in the Church at Antioch?

1. Ordinary Christians share the good news and plant a Multi-Ethnic Church (vs. 19 - 20)
2. People believe their message and turn to the Lord with all their hearts (vs. 21 - 23)
3. The Church is teachable and trusts their God-given authorities / leaders (vs. 22 - 27)
4. The Church is generous and responds to the practical needs of others (vs. 27 - 30)

Questions for Reflection / Discussion:

It is interesting that ---

- The sharing of the good news and the planting of churches in Acts is mostly done by average and unknown followers of Jesus. Why is that? What can we learn from this?
- The mission of the early church expands to the nations with bi-cultural people leading the charge. Why do you think that was? What might that teach us today about missions?
- Barnabas did not go back to the mother church in Jerusalem to find support for the need in Antioch, but instead to Saul of Tarsus. Why was that? What does it teach us?
- Luke says that the disciples gave an offering *'each according to his ability'* (vs.29). What does this teach us about the evidence of grace in our lives and how we should give?



Personal Study Notes

*¹⁷ So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us,
who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ,
who was I to think that I could oppose God?"*

*¹⁸ When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying,
"So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life."
Acts 11:17-18*

Endorsement of the Witness to the Gentiles

The Questioning of the Jerusalem Leaders (11:1-3)

The Defense by Peter (11:4-17)

The Defense Accepted (10:18)

Personal Prayer Points from this Passage:

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

- 1)
- 2)