

Acts 11:19-30
The Gospel in a City
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Acts 11:19–30 *"Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul."*

Acts 1:8 *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Ephesians 2 (referenced) *"It's by grace through faith you are saved."*

A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, 3rd ed. **χαίρω**: "to be in a state of happiness and well-being, rejoice."

Tim Keller- *"We cannot grow into the people we were designed to be except in this soil. We have to be surrounded by people who are not so cowardly that they just affirm us and not so*

impatient and unloving that they give advice too quickly. We need to be surrounded by people who are characterized by truth and love or we won't grow."

Acts 11:19 *"Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews."*

Acts 8:1 *"And Saul approved of his execution. And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles."*

Genesis 50:20 *"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."*

R. Kent Hughes *"Christ was so much on these believers' lips, they lived so like Christ, that no other name would do. Christian is a wonderful name—a name of which we should seek to be worthy."*

Galatians 3:25–28 *"But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*

Exalting Jesus in Acts,: *"The church doesn't ask, 'How much will it cost?' They simply give as much as they can. This kind of generosity shows that the gospel has transformed them (cf. 2 Cor 8:9)."*

2 Corinthians 8:9 *"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich."*

1. Am I resting in the finished work of Christ?

2. Are the people around me better because I am in their lives?
3. Am I enjoying the nearness of God through Scripture and prayer?
4. Was I more generous this year than last?
5. When did I last introduce Christ into a conversation?
6. Where in the world does Jesus want me to go next?