

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

JAN. 11 & 12 - ACTS 11 - BARNABAS & SAUL

OPENING QUESTION

Identify someone in your life whom you have witnessed making a courageous decision to move outside their comfort zone in taking on a new challenge. What did they do? What did it cost them? How did it make you feel as you witnessed it?

READ TOGETHER

Acts 11:19-26

BIG IDEA

God wants to correct our vision so we can see what He has for us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

This passage in Acts 11 has so much to do with God's plan throughout Scripture. The questions below help us to grapple with this.

1. First, read Acts 1:8 and Acts 11:19-21. What is the connection between these two passages?
2. Now read Acts 8:1-4. What do those verses have to do with this passage in Acts 11:19-26?
3. Finally, have different small group members read Genesis 12:1-3/ Psalm 22:27/Isaiah 49:6/ Jeremiah 16:20-21/Zechariah 2:11/Matthew 28:19. How do these verses connect to Acts 8 and Acts 11? What long-sighted vision does God have for the human race?
4. What signs do we see in Acts 11:19-21 about how God felt about what was going on in those verses?
5. Read verse 22 again. What was Barnabas asked to do? What all would his move from Jerusalem to Antioch have "cost" him?
6. If you were asked to do what Barnabas was asked, could you have done it? What would it have cost you?
7. Read verses 25 and 26. Why did Barnabas leave Antioch and go to Tarsus? What are we told was the result of what he did?
8. What does Barnabas' trip to Tarsus teach us about ourselves and about the body of Christ?

CHALLENGE

This week, keep your eyes open for opportunities God would provide you with to connect with others outside the body of Christ. On your street, through your family and at your workplace, consider those that God has placed in your sphere of influence and take steps to build a deeper relationship with them.

PRAYER

Have each small group member share about one person who is not part of God's family that they long to influence. Pray for the person on your left in regard to what they have shared.

BECOMING
PART OF THE
**RIPPLE
EFFECT**

