

---

## We The Church

11/16 - 11/22/25

S.O.A.P.

Meanwhile, the believers who had been scattered during the persecution after Stephen's death traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch of Syria. They preached the word of God, but only to Jews. 20 However, some of the believers who went to Antioch from Cyprus and Cyrene began preaching to the Gentiles about the Lord Jesus. 21 The power of the Lord was with them, and a large number of these Gentiles believed and turned to the Lord. 22 When the church at Jerusalem heard what had happened, they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When 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. 25 Then Barnabas went on to Tarsus to look for Saul. 26 When he found him, he brought him back to Antioch. Both of them stayed there with the church for a full year, teaching large crowds of people. (It was at Antioch that the believers were first called Christians.) 27 During this time some prophets traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 One of them named Agabus stood up in one of the meetings and predicted by the Spirit that a great famine was coming upon the entire Roman world. (This was fulfilled during the reign of Claudius.) 29 So the believers in Antioch decided to send relief to the brothers and sisters in Judea, everyone giving as much as they could. 30 This they did, entrusting their gifts to Barnabas and Saul to take to the elders of the church in Jerusalem.

Acts 11:19-30 NLT

1. Where in your spiritual life or ministry do you feel like you've "finished but failed to hit the goal"? How might God be inviting you to rise again and keep pursuing His call? (Proverbs 24:16)
2. In what ways do we sometimes try to "do ministry" without compassion? How can we cultivate the heart of Jesus so that our going, giving, and serving is motivated by love rather than duty? (Matthew 25:40)
3. What is one practical way you can put your faith into action this week—locally, nationally, or globally? What tends to hold you back from acting when you see a need? (James 2:14)
4. Where is your current "Jerusalem"—the people God has placed directly in front of you? And what might it look like for you (or your group) to take a next step toward Judea, Samaria, or the ends of the earth through prayer, generosity, or partnership? (Acts 1:8)