

Sermon Title: "MARKS OF A BIBLICAL CHURCH, Part 3"

Date: January 22, 2023 - Acts 11:25-30

Central Idea: "Christian" is a name that links believers to Jesus. "If you were on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"

Introduction: The apostles sent Barnabas, the encourager, to check on the power of evangelism that had been released in Antioch. Barnabas discerned that they needed help. Who could do that? He went to Tarsus to call the meditating Saul into active ministry. And the years of preparation had made him ready. Saul responded with enthusiasm, and the missionary team of Saul and Barnabas was formed.

I. Christian Criticism vv. 1-18

II. Aggressive Evangelism vv. 19-21 --Leading in Christ

III. Competent Leadership vv. 22-24 --Living for Christ

IV. Qualified Teachers vv. 25-26 --Laboring for Christ

1. Saul comes to help vv. 25-26a

2. Disciples called Christians v. 26b

V. Social Needs vv. 27-30 --Loving in Christ

1. Prophecy of Agabus vv. 27-28

2. Aid for Judea vv. 29-30

Conclusion: They preached for a full year in the city of Antioch. It was a good place to begin. If they could win converts and establish a church there, anything was possible. The church became so strong, that when a famine hit Jerusalem, it was the church at Antioch that sent an offering. The new age of the church had begun! No wonder they were called Christians!