

# Blessing the Nations **SENT BY THE SPIRIT**

DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP + EVANGELICAL CHINESE CHURCH + UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
大馬士革國際教會 + 西雅圖證道堂 + 華大長老教會

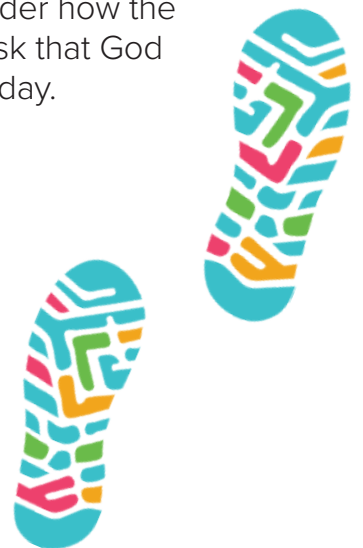
## **KiNDRED 2024 STUDY GUIDE - WEEK 4**

### **Blessing the Nations | Sent by the Spirit: Acts 11:19-30**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

As the number of Christ's followers increases in Jerusalem, the persecution of the church also increases. One consequence of this is that Christians scattered to other parts of the Roman empire and began to tell others about Jesus in these places. One such enclave of new believers was at Antioch, in the Roman province of Syria. The news of Jesus took root in Antioch and the new church grew and flourished. The church in Jerusalem heard of this and sent Barnabas and a delegation to Antioch to see for themselves. Perhaps to his surprise, Barnabas witnesses the grace of God has permeated this unexpected place. As we examine the early days of the Antioch church and we consider how the work of the Holy Spirit spans borders and ethnicities, we should ask that God show us where we are called to unleash the grace of God here today.

*Continue Study Lesson >>>*



# KINDRED 2024 STUDY GUIDE - WEEK 4

## Blessing the Nations | Sent by the Spirit: Acts 11:19-30

**READ:** Acts 11:19-30

**PRAYER:** *Heavenly Father, thank you for the encouragement your word provides as we study it together guided by your Holy Spirit. Help us to have ears to hear and hearts to understand what you have to say to us by your word and those in our group. Amen.*

### DISCUSSION:

1. Think about your own name. What does it mean? For the first time in Acts, believers are called Christians (v. 11:26). While we all have different first names, we are all united by the family name of Christian. What expectations come with this name? What positive and negative connotations do people associate with the Christian name? How can you live up to this name and its true meaning?
2. Barnabas was given his name by the apostles. It means “son of encouragement” (Acts 4:36). Upon his arrival in Antioch, Barnabas joined the believers in their work and encouraged the church in Antioch to remain “true to the Lord with all their hearts” (v. 23). In what ways does Barnabas help the growing church? What can we apply from how Barnabas conducted himself?
3. Even though the Bible does not indicate that Barnabas felt as though his assignment might be difficult, one can’t help but think that the thought crossed his mind. When called to missions, how can you overcome feeling unqualified or the fear of rejection? If you were to do some missionary work with someone different, what would you do?
4. The believers scattered away from Jerusalem because of persecution, however that hardship helped spread the Gospel in an unexpected way. How have you seen God and the Holy Spirit turn what we see as disasters into blessings?
5. What need is brought to the attention of the Christians in Antioch? What did they do about it? What needs do you see in your community? What obstacles and fears keep you from acting? How do you discern and decide what to do about these needs?
6. How are the three Kindred churches the same? How are we different? How can we leverage our differences to help each other serve God and our communities?

**PRAYER:** *Lord Jesus thank you for your presence with us and for the way we’ve learned from you and one another over these weeks together. Send us to those who need you in their lives and give us the words to point them to you. Amen.*



# NOTES

