

Sermon Notes for January 11, 2026

Title: First Called Christians

Text: Acts 1:8; 8:1b, 4; 11:19-26

1. The church in Antioch was _____ by some men from Cyprus and Cyrene. (Acts 11:19-21)
 - a. They preached the _____ Jesus to the Gentiles (Greek speaking non-Jews).
 - b. The hand of the _____ was with them.
 - c. A great number who believed turned to the _____.

2. The church in Antioch was _____ by one man sent from the church in Jerusalem. (Acts 11:22-24)
 - a. Barnabas saw the _____ of God.
 - b. Barnabas exhorted them to be faithful to the _____.
 - c. A great many people were added to the _____.

3. The church in Antioch was _____ by two men to become a missionary sending church. (Acts 11:25-26; 13:1-3)
 - a. Barnabas brought in some _____.
 - b. Barnabas and Saul met with the _____.
 - c. In Antioch the disciples were first called _____.

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Discussion Guide

1. What stood out to you in today's gathering?
2. Did persecution in the Acts account (Acts 8:1b, 4; 11:19-20) hinder the spread of the gospel or help the spread of the gospel? What about persecution throughout church history? What about persecution today?
3. How does this snapshot of the church in Antioch show us the importance and difference in preaching the gospel (see Acts 11:20-21) and teaching the gospel (see Acts 11:23, 26)?
4. Is "Christian" a good name for those who follow Christ? Why or why not? Do you prefer to be called something else? If so, what and why?
5. How can you apply today's message to your life?

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