

Aug 30, 2026 “Where Grace Grows”

Small Group Questions

Read Acts 11:19-30; 12:25-13:3

1. The church in Antioch began as a small and unlikely “mustard seed,” but grew into a church that was faithful, generous, diverse, and willing to send its best leaders away for the sake of the gospel. What stands out to you most about the church in Antioch? What do you think helped it become such a healthy expression of the kingdom of God?
2. The church in Antioch looked quite different from the church in Jerusalem, but Barnabas didn’t try to make it conform to what he already knew. What can make it difficult for us to recognize God at work when something looks different from what we are used to?
3. Barnabas repeatedly saw potential in people before others did, including Saul and John Mark, and then encouraged that potential to grow. Has someone ever done that for you? What difference did their encouragement make?
4. Is there someone in your life in whom you can see a “glimmer” of God’s grace that might need encouragement? What might it look like practically to encourage or make room for that person?
5. Barnabas was willing to bring Saul into leadership even though Saul would eventually become more prominent than he was. What does Barnabas teach us about ambition, recognition, and using our gifts for the sake of God’s kingdom rather than ourselves?
6. The sermon ends with the image of planting and tending seeds whose eventual growth we may never see: *“our calling is to notice it, tend it, encourage it, and trust God with the growth.”* Where might God be asking you to faithfully tend something right now without knowing what it will eventually become?