

Generous Giving and Sending

Acts 11:19–30; Acts 13:1–3

Introduction

The book of Acts shows a church that wasn't simply growing—it was giving away its people, resources, and opportunities for the sake of God's mission.

In these two passages we see:

- A church generously giving financial support.
- A church generously releasing its best leaders.
- A church responding to God's mission rather than protecting its own comfort.

Generosity in the early church wasn't just about money—it was about open hands with everything God had entrusted to them.

Read Acts 11:19–30 & Acts 13:1-3

Healthy churches don't become inward-looking—they become outward-giving.

Discussion Questions – choose some of the following questions.

- 1) What stands out to you in these passages about the generosity of the early church? In what ways were they generous?
- 2) Barnabas encouraged the new believers "to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts." (v23) Why is encouragement such an important part of Christian growth?
- 3) Why do you think Barnabas chose to involve Saul rather than continue the work alone? What does this teach us about leadership?
- 4) What principles about giving do you see here (v29-30)?
- 5) Why do you think the church was willing to help believers they had never met?
- 6) What prevents Christians (and churches) from giving freely today?
- 7) What stands out to you in Acts 13:1-3 about the sending out of Paul and Barnabas?

Application Questions

- 1) In what ways are we already showing generosity as a team of churches? How could we do it even more?
 - 2) What can we as a church learn from the example here of the early church?
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Prayer

If your life group has a connection with one of our mission partners, pray for them today.

Closing Challenge:

This week, ask God one simple question: *"Lord, what have You entrusted to me that You're inviting me to give away?"* Then take one practical step—whether it's giving financially, offering your time, encouraging someone, or supporting someone God is sending.