

“Your Vision is too Small: The Call to the Nations/City”

Progression in Providence: From “good is good” to “bad is better”

Acts 2:47

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 11:19

19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews.

Progression in People: From Oikos to Xenos

Acts 11:20-21

20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists [\[1\]](#) also, preaching the Lord Jesus. **21** And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord.

Footnotes

[\[1\]](#) **11:20** Or *Greeks* (that is, Greek-speaking non-Jews)

Progression in Partnership: From connection to cooperation

Acts 11:22-30

22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. **23** When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, **24** for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. **25** So Barnabas went to

Tarsus to look for Saul, **26** and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

27 Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. **28** And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). **29** So the disciples determined, everyone according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers [\[1\]](#) living in Judea. **30** And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Footnotes

[\[1\]](#) **11:29** Or *brothers and sisters*

Progression in Planning: from strategic to structural

Acts 13:1-3

13:1 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, [\[1\]](#) Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. **2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” **3** Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Footnotes

[\[1\]](#) **13:1** *Niger* is a Latin word meaning *black*, or *dark*

Progression in Priority: from worship to worship

Acts 13:2

2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

Acts 13:48-52

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. **49** And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. **50** But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. **51** But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. **52** And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.