



Unit 31, Session 2

Barnabas in Antioch

Acts 11

Story Point: Barnabas went to Antioch to encourage believers.

Peter shared the gospel not only with Jews, but with Gentiles. The Gentiles in Caesarea heard Peter's message and believed. God gave His Holy Spirit to these new believers, and they were baptized.

Before long, the apostles and other believers throughout Judea heard that Gentiles had believed the good news about Jesus. They were surprised, so Peter explained that the gospel is for all people. Then the believers praised God and understood that Jesus had come for the Gentiles too!

Some believers went to Antioch and preached the gospel to the Greeks, too. God was with them, and a large number of the Greeks believed the good news.

The church at Jerusalem heard about these new believers, so they sent Barnabas to Antioch. He encouraged them to keep

following God. Even more people trusted in Jesus.

Then Barnabas left Antioch and went to Tarsus to look for Paul. He found Paul and brought him back to Antioch. They stayed with the church in Antioch for a year, teaching large crowds of people. Jesus' followers were first called Christians at Antioch.

Christ Connection: Even though some people tried to stop it, the gospel spread throughout the earth—not only to Jews but also to Gentiles. The good news about Jesus is for everyone. God calls us to celebrate when others believe and help them know and love Jesus more.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Choose a scenario and write what you could say to encourage someone. Find and read the Scripture reference for ideas.
 1. *“I’m worried about some of the things I see on the news.” (John 16:33)*
 2. *“My grandmother recently passed away, and I really miss her.” (Psalm 147:3)*
 3. *“I’m nervous about going to a new school and making new friends.” (Philippians 4:6-7)*

- What does this story teach us about God?

- How did the church in Jerusalem help new believers?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Even though some people tried to stop it, the gospel spread throughout the earth—not only to Jews but also to Gentiles. The good news about Jesus is for everyone. God calls us to celebrate when others believe and help them know and love Jesus more.



APPLY the Story

- Where did Peter and Barnabas share the gospel?
- With whom should we share the good news of Jesus?
- How do you feel about sharing Jesus with others?

CHRIST CONNECTION

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APPLY the Story

- Find 1 Chronicles 16:31 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, thanking God that His good news is for everyone. Pray that you will have the confidence to share the gospel with a friend or neighbor this week.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 1:8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Thessalonians 5:11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 5:14-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 3:13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John 14:26 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 4:29 |