

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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Be A World Changer
GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 7/30/2017
Study: 8/6/17

Sending With Joy

Without a doubt, one of the greatest privileges and one of the most awesome responsibilities that God can entrust to a local congregation is to be the sending church for a missionary called to the mission field by the Holy Spirit. Biblically speaking, it is a more intimate fulfillment of the Great Commission. It is one thing to give your mission dollars; it is more difficult to give your children. Nevertheless, that ought to be the goal of every New Testament Baptist Church.

Of course, we know that Paul and Barnabas were the very first missionaries and that the church of Antioch was the first sending church. Therefore, Acts 13:1-4 narrates for us the beginning of what we now consider the “modern missionary movement.” Let’s notice several principles that are found in this passage.

The Holy Spirit Calls

As one studies Acts 13, it is evident that the principal character in this passage is the Person of the Holy Spirit. Someone has aptly called Him the “Commander and Chief of Missions.” As the church at Antioch maintained a spirit of prayer, the Holy Spirit began a work of missions in the heart of that congregation that has become the foundation of our modern missionary movement. Let us remember first of all that in Acts 13 it was with the Holy Spirit that missions originated. It was not an Antiochan or Pauline concept. The idea to reach the world with the Gospel began in the heart of God and was passed on to man by the conviction and direction of the Holy Spirit.

The Local Church

Though the Holy Spirit is the Commander and Chief of missions, we must never minimize the importance and the place of the local church. Apart from the Holy Spirit, no other person or organization ought to have as much influence over the direction and decisions of the missionary as his local sending church. The church needs to be in tune with the Holy Spirit so that it can recognize when God is calling someone to missions and release that person to go.

(Adapted from an article on Bimi.org)

KEY VERSE

Acts 13:3

“Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away .”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 13:1-3

Introduction

Can you describe a time when you felt led by the Holy Spirit?

How would you describe the church in Antioch?

This week, we conclude our Be a World Changer Study. What has impacted you the most?

Since the weekly themes were built upon each other, now is a good time to review them.

Tuesday: Acts 1:1-11

Witnessing With Power

How does the Holy Spirit provide power to be a witness for Jesus?

Why do we need power to share the Gospel?

Wednesday: Romans 1:8-17

Preach the Gospel

If the Gospel is indeed “the power of God,” how should that power be demonstrated in your life?

As believers, we often view personal evangelism as a daunting and forced task, for which we are under-prepared and unqualified. How can you make evangelism a natural part of everyday life?

Thursday: Matthew 28:18-20

Going for Disciples

If we are commanded to go and make disciples, what prevents us?

What does it mean to be a disciple?

How is Jesus with us in our efforts to share the Gospel and make disciples?

Friday: II Corinthians 10:13-18

Giving by Faith

Would you say that your giving is flourishing or does it need to be renewed?

Why is it easy to get complacent in our giving?

Wrap Up

How can you apply what we’ve heard and read during this missions emphasis to your life and to our church?

How can you develop a personal strategy for:

Evangelism?

Making disciples?