

# Growing to Fruitfulness

Acts 11:22-30

What is the purpose of \_\_\_\_\_?

More \_\_\_\_\_

What is fruit in a \_\_\_\_\_, or in a \_\_\_\_\_ church?

\_\_\_\_\_ / Goodness

Spreading \_\_\_\_\_, and more people in \_\_\_\_\_

## Context of Acts 11

The first multi-\_\_\_\_\_ church

Jews & \_\_\_\_\_ converts to Judaism

Plus Greeks who never converted to \_\_\_\_\_

Before this church:

Only "\_\_\_\_\_" people (included converts to Judaism)

Big questions in the \_\_\_\_\_ church in Jerusalem:

Is this church really a \_\_\_\_\_ church?

Is this church a \_\_\_\_\_ thing?

## Acts 11:22-30

19-26: Multi-ethnic church started & grew in Antioch

Gospel was told to Gentiles (crossing \_\_\_\_\_)

By unnamed, "\_\_\_\_\_" Christians

Barnabas "\_\_\_\_\_ what the grace of God had done"

New and growing \_\_\_\_\_

Diverse \_\_\_\_\_

First ones to be called "\_\_\_\_\_"

\_\_\_\_\_ of what a Christian church should be

Because of diversity, it no longer made sense to consider it a

\_\_\_\_\_ of Judaism

27-30: Antioch church gave as an act of service

The prophet Agabus told of coming need in \_\_\_\_\_

The Roman world (perhaps a bad harvest in \_\_\_\_\_)

Jerusalem had no \_\_\_\_\_, so very vulnerable

Generosity came from "the \_\_\_\_\_"

In Acts, "\_\_\_\_\_" = all of the Christians

By unnamed, "\_\_\_\_\_" Christians

Generosity was related to \_\_\_\_\_

The gift was sent to people they might never \_\_\_\_\_

Luke's answer to the questions:

Is this church really a Christian church?

Is this church a good thing?

Definitely "\_\_\_\_\_"!

Growth resulting in generosity beyond \_\_\_\_\_

By unnamed, "\_\_\_\_\_" Christians

By the "Lord's \_\_\_\_\_": God was working in people

## The Big Idea:

Serving and giving to others \_\_\_\_\_

is a key \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord Jesus

Luke 6:43-45

## Application:

Remain true to the \_\_\_\_\_ with all our heart

Barnabas's message: keep following \_\_\_\_\_!

Daily living naturally draws us into \_\_\_\_\_, not into Jesus

Following Jesus is a daily \_\_\_\_\_ that brings \_\_\_\_\_

Fruitfulness & generosity come from the \_\_\_\_\_ in us

→ Look at and listen to and follow \_\_\_\_\_

Gain "\_\_\_\_\_ knowledge" of others

Gift of the \_\_\_\_\_: like prophecy through Agabus

Also comes through \_\_\_\_\_ means

From Agabus, new information was a call to potential \_\_\_\_\_

→ Be \_\_\_\_\_ when you hear the news

\_\_\_\_\_ others with what we have been given

What have we \_\_\_\_\_, whether much or little?

\_\_\_\_\_ and serve

Proportionately and \_\_\_\_\_ as God has given to us

\_\_\_\_\_: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control

\_\_\_\_\_: Money, abilities, time, attention, ...

\_\_\_\_\_: sharing the Gospel & God's story in your life

\_\_\_\_\_ to fruitfulness: serving and giving beyond ourselves:

\_\_\_\_\_ shaped by God's Word and Jesus' life and teaching

\_\_\_\_\_ meditating on the love and generosity of God to us

\_\_\_\_\_ taking steps of obedience to serve and give

\_\_\_\_\_ spurring each other on to love and good deeds

## Reflection

- When have you seen or experienced God's people giving and serving beyond themselves?
- How is serving and giving a means of growing in Christ?
- What has God given you that you can share with others?