



More And Better Leaders

Series: "Real Christianity: How It Flourished", Part 1 of 13

Sunday, June 7, 2026

Big Idea: Leaders are God's catalysts to change the world.

Text: Acts 11:19-26; 13:1-3

I. God Often Prepares Leaders Through Hardship And Obscurity.

Galatians 2:1a, "Fourteen years later I went up again to Jerusalem, this time with Barnabas."

II. The Church Can Encourage Leaders By Seeking Them Out And Providing Opportunities To Lead.

Acts 11:21-26a, The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. 22 News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. 24 He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. 25 Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people.

Acts 13:2-3, "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.' 3So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off."

Acts 13:42, "As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath."

Acts 11:26b, "So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people."

Acts 12:25, "When Barnabas and Saul had finished their mission, they returned from Jerusalem, taking with them John, also called Mark."

Acts 13:3, "So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off."

III. Leaders Can Help Prepare Themselves Through A Singular Commitment To God's Call.

A. Sincere integrity.

2 Corinthians 1:12, "Now this is our boast: Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God. We have done so not according to worldly wisdom but according to God's grace."

B. Compassion.

C. Enthusiasm.