

Acts 11

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Acts 11:1-18 - Peter reports to the Church

- News traveled fast that Peter **sharing** Jesus with Gentiles
- Judea is hearing this news and people are starting to question Peter
- Peter went to Jerusalem to address these concerns
- Peter seemed to know that this would happen and prepared for what he would say – Acts 11:4
- Jews and Gentiles are 2 very different people so everyone was **shocked** to hear what had happened in Caesarea
- Peter was ready to give a defense for his actions – 1 Peter 3:15
- Peter recounts the vision that he was given to the doubting Gentiles
- The unclean animals is what Peter saw in the vision
- These animals **descended** on a large sheet – Acts 11:5
- These animals were unclean just like the Gentiles were
- Peter would not kill the animals even though he was asked to
- He didn't want to because they were not **clean**
- The important statement from God said what God has made clean, do not call common – Acts 11:9
- After this Peter realized what God was saying and connected the uncleanliness of the **food** with the uncleanliness of the people
- They then got the Holy Spirit that came over them – Acts 11:16-17
- After all of this Peter was going to be rejected or accepted
- If they thought Peter was speaking blaspheme they might murder Peter
- The crowd fell silent immediately after Peter was done
- The crowd started praising **God**
- The Jews realized that Jesus wasn't just for them but also for the Gentiles
- This would help to draw them closer together
- There are still differences between Jew and Gentile but help to restore peace

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Acts 11:19-30 – The Church in Antioch

- People were exiled after the stoning of Stephen
- Stephen had a huge **impact** and people spread the word
- One of the problems is that they only spread the good news with the Jews
- Jesus spread the gospel to all people but since he has been gone the gospel has gone out to Jews mainly
- Men from Cyprus and Cyrene coming to Antioch shared the gospel with the Hellenistic Jews and they got saved
- Word has spread and Jerusalem and the Church sent Barnabas to Antioch
- From Jerusalem to Antioch is **300** miles
- When Barnabas got to Antioch he saw the grace of God – Acts 11:23
- What Barnabas saw was genuine faith and turned to the Lord
- Notice that Barnabas doesn't praise the people but God – Colossians 3:23
- People continued to trust in God – Acts 11:24
- The Word of God when it goes out never return **empty** – Isaiah 55:11
- After this Barnabas left to get and find Saul at Tarsus
- Barnabas found Saul and then brought him back to Antioch
- For a whole year they taught them and the peoples faith grew
- These people were then called Christians – Acts 11:26
- The word Christian means **little** Christ or Christ follower
- This is the first time in Scripture that the word Christian gets used
- The word Christian would have been made up by the Gentiles
- Next a man named Agabus came and told of a famine that is to come
- Famines have happened many places in scripture before
- The famine wasn't small but would take place over the whole world
- The disciples then help and **aid** to Judea in the famine
- The elders got it by the hands of Saul and Barnabas – Acts 11:30
- Right now it is Barnabas and Saul traveling but soon it will be Paul and Barnabas

