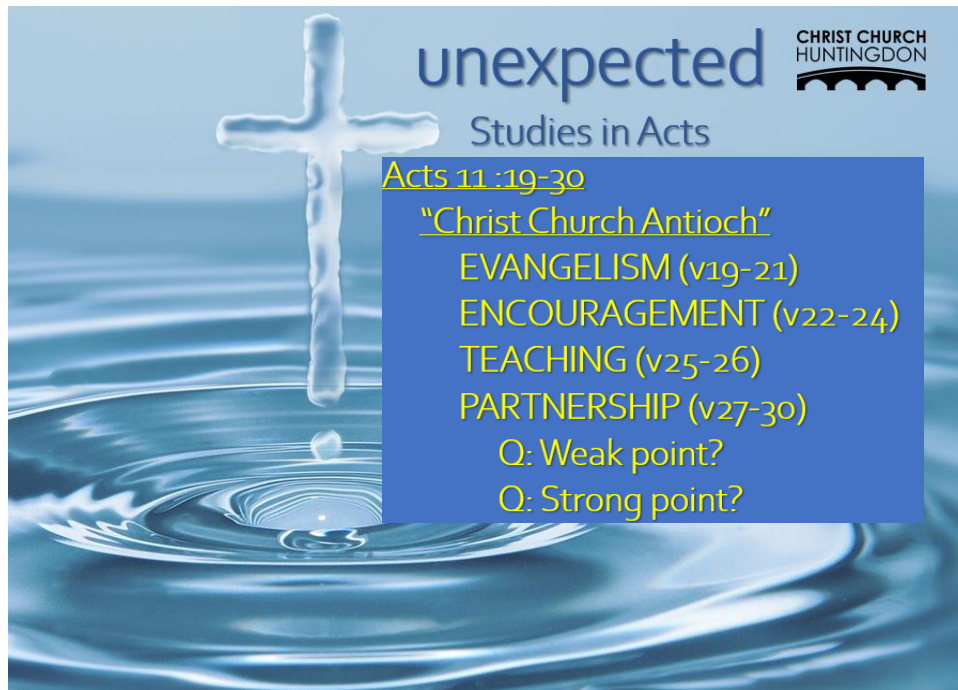


Dig Deeper Acts 11:19-30 for lifegroups/personal study ...



The church in Syrian Antioch played a huge role in the spread of the gospel in the book of Acts. In fact you could argue that from ch11 onwards the centre of gravity shifts from Jerusalem as the hub to Antioch. Certainly, Antioch is the base for Paul's missionary journeys. In 13:1-3 Barnabas and Saul are sent out to plant churches. In 14:26-28 Paul and friends report back their news. In Acts 15 Antioch is part of the conversation in a great controversy- "should non-Jewish Christians be circumcised?", and in ch18 we see Paul continue to return to Antioch between travels. Click [here](#) for some great maps!

Looking at the story of the planting and establishment of this key church in Antioch (Acts 11:19-30), have a think about the following...

- 1. What do we learn about the relationship between God's role and the church's role in ministry? What will be the result if we underestimate either of these?**
- 2. Looking at the different activities in planting and establishing a church, which do you feel are strong and weak points for you personally, and for us as a church? What practically can we do to maximise growth in the light of these?**
- 3. Zooming in on encouragement v23. How very specifically, can you be more of a Barnabas? You might like to think about lifegroup, Sunday church and the rest of the week?**

Resources...

- Awesome map of Acts with current cities overlaid. [here](#).
- Kevin De Young on "Do not lose the term Christian". Short article [here](#).
- Crosslinks, mission agency for short (1 week) and longer term mission [here](#).
- Postcards of Encouragement. £1 for 6 lovely Bible verse postcards [here](#).