

04/17 – 04/18/2021

God's Heart for Planting Churches

Speaker: Derek Levendusky

Acts 13:1-3 *Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. ²While 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." ³Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.*

Five observations from this passage about church planting:

1. Church planting is on God's heart

They're admiring God and listening in prayer, and they get to hear God's heart.

2. Church planting is God's idea

If you look at what they did on their first missionary journey, you could summarize it in two simple ways: they preached the gospel and started churches.

"Planting new churches is the most effective evangelistic methodology known under heaven." - Missiologist C. Peter Wagner

3. Reproduction was God's Plan A for Antioch

God's plan all along was that Antioch was to be a church that makes other churches.

God's indwelling nature in a Body of believers is to reproduce.

Jeff Vanderstelt said, *"If reproduction isn't at the end of what you do, the church will be a perpetual orphanage where you have a couple of dads that take care of all the children who never grow into spiritual maturity."*

4. Antioch sent Paul & Barnabus

The church wasn't losing Paul & Barnabus, but sending them.

5. Jesus is a church planter

Antioch exists because Jesus was sent by the Father on a mission to the world.

Throughout the gospels, Jesus established a church community in His disciples (Matt. 16:18).

This played out in places like Corinth: Acts 18:8b-11

God is a searching God.

A few things about our new adventure in Clarksville:

1. Our vision
2. Our mission field
3. Timeline
4. How to support us