

SIX CHARACTERISTICS OF A *USABLE* CHRISTIAN / Acts 11:29-30

1. **U**nstained by our Culture. (11:19-20, 22, 26)

At Antioch the believers were first called Christians, the Christ-ones. There are some distinctions of a church that must be kept intact. We bear the name of our Savior.

2. **S**tretched to our Limits. (11:19; 12:1-3)

From a close look at the early church, we see clearly that struggle, rejection, criticism, and even death for believers was the norm.

3. **A**dhering to the Savior. (11:21, 23, 26)

Barnabas encouraged the believers to make a serious, solid attachment to Christ and Christ alone.

4. **B**old in our Witness. (11:19-21, 24)

This church spoke, told, and preached the Good News. People believed and turned to the Lord.

5. **L**iberal in our Giving. (11:22, 24, 27-30)

The Antioch church gave. They were unselfish, other-centered, and giving oriented, even to a culturally and racially different congregation.

6. **E**quipped in the Scriptures. (11:23, 26)

This church was taught. The picture here is of classrooms, courses, study, memorization . . . work. Before Antioch became a *sending* place it was a *studying* place. We have the picture of an equipping church and an equipped people. No wonder they changed the world.