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### PRAYER

God, empower us with your love, and let your love overflow in us, through us, and into our city and nation. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Who is the most influential person in your life that you know, that is not a relative? Why are they so influential in your life?

### NOTES

## WORD

<sup>19</sup> Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. <sup>20</sup> Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. <sup>24</sup> He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. <sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup> 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. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

[Acts 11:19-25](#) (ESV)

<sup>42</sup> As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath. <sup>43</sup> When the congregation was dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the grace of God. <sup>44</sup> On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. <sup>45</sup> When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him. <sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles.

[Acts 13:42-46](#) (ESV)

## GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = absolutely disgusted, 10 = completely fulfilled when celebrating), how would you rate your ability to celebrate when someone else that is less experienced than you, exceeds your abilities and gains more favour with people than you? Why have you rated yourself this way?

2. In Acts 11, we read how Barnabas finds Saul in Tarsus and brings him to a place of community where he would both learn and teach. By Acts 13, we see that Saul has become Paul and is now a recognised leader who speaks alongside Barnabas. This is a great biblical picture of discipleship: finding those who are wandering, teaching them to teach, and supporting them as they do what God calls them to do. Would you be willing to be like Barnabas in the following ways?
  - Going out of your way to find the wanderer and bring them into the community?
  - Invest time and effort to teach those you lead to teach others?
  - Withstand the abuse of those around you as you preach the Gospel and teach others?
3. Would you be willing to let those whom you disciple go beyond you in their influence, even if you don't get any credit for it? Why or why not?
4. When we see the church at Antioch, we can see many nations represented in this vibrant community of disciples where the Holy Spirit is moving. What are you willing to do to go beyond people who are like you, in order to love, reach, and disciple those not like you?
5. Are you being discipled? If you are, who is discipling you intentionally? How do they help you grow? If you aren't, would you like to be? Please ask your Life Group leader or email us at [info@enbrisbane.org](mailto:info@enbrisbane.org) and we'll be sure to connect you with someone who can help you in your discipleship journey.

## PRAYER LIST