

THE CHURCH **JESUS** ENDORSES!

Here at Immerse Church, our pursuit is not simply to build a growing church, but to become the kind of church that Jesus Himself endorses. We desire to reflect the pattern of the New Testament Church—a church marked by agape love, abiding in His presence, walking in supernatural power, and bearing lasting fruit for the Kingdom of God.

As you continue your journey through the Book of Acts, make this your daily prayer: **"Lord, make us the kind of church You can trust."** May we become a church that Jesus endorses, a church He backs with His power, a church He lifts up for His glory, and a church He entrusts with His Kingdom purposes. May the hand of the Lord rest upon us as it did upon the church at Antioch, so that our lives, our ministry, and our witness bring many people to faith in Christ.

Our prayer is that Immerse Church will become a modern-day Antioch—a church filled with grace, led by the Holy Spirit, devoted to worship and prayer, committed to making disciples, generous in giving, prophetic in vision, and sent into the world to advance the Kingdom of God.

Characteristics of the Church at Antioch (**Acts 11–13**)

#	Characteristic of the Antioch Church	Scripture Reference	Kingdom Expression
1	A Church Born Through Evangelism	Acts 11:19–21	They preached Jesus wherever they were scattered, and many turned to the Lord. Evangelism was their lifestyle, not just an event.
2	A Church Marked by the Hand of God	Acts 11:21	The hand of the Lord was upon them, bringing favor, supernatural power, and spiritual increase.
3	A Church Filled with Grace	Acts 11:23	Barnabas saw the grace of God operating among them, producing faithfulness, joy, and spiritual maturity.
4	A Church That Developed Disciples	Acts 11:25–26	Barnabas and Saul taught believers for a year, building mature disciples who reflected Christ.
5	A Church Identified with Christ	Acts 11:26	Their lives reflected Jesus so clearly that they were first called Christians in Antioch.
6	A Church That Embraced Diversity	Acts 13:1	Leaders from different cultures and backgrounds served together in unity under the Holy Spirit.
7	A Church Rich in Spiritual Gifts / Fivefold Ministry	Acts 13:1	Prophets and teachers functioned together, equipping the church through revelation and instruction.
8	A Worshiping Church	Acts 13:2	They ministered to the Lord before they ministered for the Lord. Worship created an atmosphere for divine direction.

#	Characteristic of the Antioch Church	Scripture Reference	Kingdom Expression
9	A Praying and Fasting Church	Acts 13:2–3	Through prayer and fasting, they sought God's will and received Holy Spirit direction.
10	A Spirit-Led Church	Acts 13:2, 4	The Holy Spirit directed their decisions, assignments, and movements.
11	A Sending Church	Acts 13:3	They laid hands on Barnabas and Saul and released them into their apostolic assignment.
12	A Generous Church	Acts 11:27–30	They responded to prophetic revelation with compassion and gave to meet the needs of believers.
13	A Prophetic Church	Acts 11:27–28	They recognized prophetic revelation and responded with wisdom, preparation, and obedience.

The Apostolic DNA of the Church at Antioch

DNA Marker	Scripture	Impact
Evangelistic Fire	Acts 11:19–21	Souls were saved and the Gospel advanced.
God's Hand of Favor	Acts 11:21	Supernatural results followed their obedience.
Grace-Filled Culture	Acts 11:23	Believers matured and remained faithful.
Discipleship Foundation	Acts 11:25–26	Converts became committed followers of Christ.
Christ-Centered Identity	Acts 11:26	Their lifestyle revealed Jesus to the world.
Kingdom Unity	Acts 13:1	Diversity became strength for God's mission.
Spiritual Equipping	Acts 13:1	Gifts and leadership were developed.
Presence-Centered Worship	Acts 13:2	Heaven's voice was released through worship.
Prayer & Fasting Culture	Acts 13:2–3	Divine strategies were received.
Holy Spirit Leadership	Acts 13:2, 4	The Church moved according to Heaven's direction.
Missionary Sending	Acts 13:3	Leaders were released to impact nations.

DNA Marker	Scripture	Impact
Kingdom Generosity	Acts 11:27–30	Resources became tools for blessing others.
Prophetic Sensitivity	Acts 11:27–28	The Church prepared for what God was doing.

The Church at Antioch was a model apostolic church: a Spirit-filled, worshiping, praying, prophetic, discipling, generous, and sending church. It was not merely a place where believers gathered—it was a Kingdom headquarters where believers were transformed, equipped, and released to impact the world.

Heart Reflection

1. Barnabas "saw the grace of God" upon the believers (Acts 11:23). If someone observed your life this week, what evidence of God's grace would they see?
2. The believers were first called Christians because they reflected Christ. What areas of your life need to become more like Jesus?
3. Which of the thirteen characteristics of the Antioch Church do you personally need to grow in the most?
4. How has the Holy Spirit been challenging you to become more spiritually mature?

Kingdom Application

1. What would it look like for Immerse Church to become a modern-day Antioch Church?
2. How can you help build a culture of prayer, worship, discipleship, generosity, and evangelism?
3. In what practical ways can we become a "sending" church instead of simply an "attending" church?
4. How can we better demonstrate the love of Christ within our church family and our community?

Personal Challenge

This week, choose one Antioch characteristic that you will intentionally practice.

- ☐ Share your faith with someone.
- ☐ Spend intentional time in worship.
- ☐ Fast and pray for God's direction.
- ☐ Encourage and disciple another believer.
- ☐ Give generously to the work of the ministry in our church.
- ☐ Pray for the nations or missionaries.
- ☐ Listen for and obey the Holy Spirit's leading.

- □ Demonstrate Christ's love through an act of service.

Prayer Focus

Pray together that Immerse Church will become the kind of church that Jesus endorses.

Ask God to make us:

- A church filled with agape love.
- A church that abides in His presence.
- A church led by the Holy Spirit.
- A church marked by prayer and worship.
- A church rich in grace and discipleship.
- A church that hears His voice.
- A church that walks in supernatural power.
- A church that generously advances the Kingdom.
- A church that raises up and sends leaders.
- A church the Lord can trust with revival and harvest.