

Read Acts 11:25-30

25 Then Barnabas went on to Tarsus to look for Saul.

26 When he found him, he brought him back to Antioch. Both of them stayed there with the church for a full year, teaching large crowds of people. (It was at Antioch that the believers were first called Christians.)

27 During this time some prophets traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch.

28 One of them named Agabus stood up in one of the meetings and predicted by the Spirit that a great famine was coming upon the entire Roman world. (This was fulfilled during the reign of Claudius.)

29 So the believers in Antioch decided to send relief to the brothers and sisters in Judea, everyone giving as much as they could.

30 This they did, entrusting their gifts to Barnabas and Saul to take to the elders of the church in Jerusalem.

What did Barnabas do next (v. 25)? He went to Saul's hometown Tarsus to look for Saul.

Why was he looking for Saul? Since the church was growing so fast, Barnabas needed help teaching the people about Jesus. He knew that Saul was very smart.

When Barnabas found Saul what did they do next (v. 26)? They went back to Antioch and they stayed there for a year teaching all the people about Jesus.

What was unique about the history of the Christians at Antioch? Antioch was the place where believers were first called Christians.

What happened during this time (v. 27)? Several prophets traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch.

Who was the prophet who stood up to talk (v. 28)? Agabus.

What did he predict by the Holy Spirit? That a great famine was coming on the whole Roman world.

Did that happen? Yes, during the reign of Claudius (41 to 54 AD).

What did the believers in Antioch decide to do (v. 29)? They sent money to the believers in Jerusalem. They gave as much as they could to help the people who needed money. They were very generous even though they didn't have very much money.

How did they do it (v. 30)? They gave the money to Barnabas and Saul to take back to the elders of the church in Jerusalem to give to the people.