



**From Peter to Paul**  
**Acts 11:19-30**

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## Luke's purposes:

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- ❖ Acts is a defense of the Christian church against Rome.
- ❖ Acts is a defense of Rome against the Christian church.
- ❖ Judaizers are wrong.
- ❖ Help understanding death and struggle.
- ❖ Promote allegiance to Jesus above all else.



# The Antioch church:

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- ❖ Multi-cultural
- ❖ Praying
- ❖ Committed to discipleship
- ❖ Generous to the needy

# What did Barnabas do?

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- ❖ He encouraged.
- ❖ He exhorted.
- ❖ He begged.
- ❖ He beseeched.
- ❖ He entreated.
- ❖ He *parakaleo*.



# The ministry of Barnabas:

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- ❖ Jesus is our advocate.
- ❖ The Holy Spirit is another advocate.
- ❖ We are called to carry on this ministry of advocacy (truth + love).

## Acts 12:1-2

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It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword.



## Acts 12:3

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When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread.

## Acts 12:4

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After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.



A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open book. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the book and the person's arms. The text is overlaid on the image.

## Acts 12:5

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**So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.**

## Acts 12:6

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The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance.



## Acts 12:7

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Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

## Acts 12:8

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Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him.



## Acts 12:9

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Peter followed him out of the prison,  
but he had no idea that what the angel  
was doing was really happening;  
he thought he was seeing a vision.

## Acts 12:10

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They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.



## Acts 12:11

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Then Peter came to himself and said,  
“Now I know without a doubt that the  
Lord has sent his angel and rescued me  
from Herod’s clutches and from everything  
the Jewish people were hoping  
would happen.”

## Acts 12:12-13

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When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. <sup>13</sup> Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door.



## Acts 12:14-15

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When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!" "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."

## Acts 12:16

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But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished.



## Acts 12:17

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Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this," he said, and then he left for another place.

## Acts 12:18-19

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In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.



## Acts 12:19-20

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Then Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there. He had been quarreling with the people of Tyre and Sidon; they now joined together and sought an audience with him.

## Acts 12:20

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After securing the support of Blastus, a trusted personal servant of the king, they asked for peace, because they depended on the king's country for their food supply.



## Acts 12:21-22

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On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people. They shouted, "This is the voice of a god, not of a man."

## Acts 12:23-24

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Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died. But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.



## Acts 12:25

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When Barnabas and Saul had finished their mission, they returned from Jerusalem, taking with them John, also called Mark.

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# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper