

Small Group Questions for the week of 10/12/25

Getting Started

- How long have you been attending CBC, and what are some of your favorite parts about being part of this church?

Digging Into the Text

Read Acts 11:19–30

1. Describe the situation in Antioch. Why did Barnabas need to come check on the church, and what did he discover when he arrived?
2. The church at Antioch was one of the first places where non-Jews began following Christ, making it a multi-ethnic community.
 - What do you think outsiders thought when they looked in and saw that happening?
 - What struggles might this new community have faced?
3. **Read Ephesians 2:11–22.**
 - What was the church in Ephesus going through, and how does it relate to the challenges the church in Antioch faced?
4. What are some divisions you see popping up in society—or even in the church—today?
 - From what you see in these passages, how do you think Paul or Luke would encourage us to respond?

Unity and Diversity

5. Do you think it's easier to build **homogeneous** churches (where people are mostly alike) or **diverse** churches?
 - What might be *missed out on* in a homogeneous church?
 - What do we *gain* by pursuing unity in diversity?
6. As society becomes more divided and worldviews grow further apart, maintaining unity can be hard.
 - How are you personally doing in this area?
 - Do you have close relationships with people who see the world differently than you?
 - Can you listen to others' opinions without becoming angry or defensive?

- Would others describe you as a “safe person” to have honest conversations with—inside or outside the church?
7. Divisiveness often grows from misplaced **hope, identity, or idols** (things we’ve placed in God’s seat).
- In what areas do you personally find it hard to maintain unity?
 - Could there be a misplaced hope, identity, or idol at the root of that tension?

Learning from Barnabas

8. What do we learn about Barnabas in this passage? How did he influence the church at Antioch?
9. What do you think Barnabas’ influence was like toward Paul?
10. Has anyone played a “Barnabas-like” role in your life—encouraging, guiding, or believing in you when others didn’t?
11. Are you currently playing that kind of role in anyone else’s life?

Living It Out

Read Acts 11:27–30 and Acts 13:2–3

12. What do these verses reveal about the church at Antioch—what they valued and what they were committed to?
 - What could they have done with the money if they hadn’t sent it to Jerusalem?
13. How do you think it impacted the church at Antioch to *send out* Saul and Barnabas on mission?
14. Of all the qualities that marked the church at Antioch, which one would you be most excited to see grow and develop at CBC?