

## ACTS – A Church Sent Labelled

## Read/Reflect

Read Acts 11:19-30.

- 1. From this passage, what things seem to contribute to the success and advance of the church? How does that compare to your own expectations for the church?
- 2. What might the Jerusalem church have worried about when they heard the gospel was taking root in a major Roman city some 500 kms away?
- 3. Given the ties with Judaism, when did "Christianity" become a different religion? Or did it?

## **Explore**

- 4. What nickname(s) have you taken on, or accepted, or (usually worse) been assigned? What's it like, how does it feel, do or did you resist it or did you feel like it was a compliment?
- 5. What kind of encourager are you? Who can you encourage in your sphere of influence?
- 6. How do you feel about being called a Christian? How would people know to call you a Christian?
- 7. How do you, or could you, contribute to a greater sense of community and sharing of things and circumstances in life?

## Pray

- (Re)commit your life to God, praying that Christ would be the centre of every aspect of your life, confess to him those areas of your life that have not been shaped entirely by your Master and Saviour.
- Pray for boldness in your life, and in the life of the church, to be known distinctively as "Christian."