



- After years of waiting, Paul received a call to go and minister in the church at Antioch of Syria. This was an incredibly unique church:
 - ⇒ It was the first _____ church.
 - ⇒ It was the apostle Paul's first ministry.
 - ⇒ It was the first place where the word " _____ " was used.
 - ⇒ It was the first great center of Gentile evangelism.
- What were the characteristics that made the church at Antioch such a great church?

First, this church _____ proclaimed Jesus Christ. vs. 19-21

- Notice how this church was founded:
 - They preached the Word of God and the Lord Jesus. vs. 19-20
 - God's hand (power) was upon them as they preached. vs. 21a
 - Many lost people believed the gospel and _____ to the Lord. vs. 21b
- This is God's plan for any church: Exalt Jesus Christ and His finished work, and teach God's Word.
- If a church does not have this as its foundation, it will not _____ God.

Second, this church possessed Spirit-filled _____ . vs. 22-25

- It is so easy for a church to lose its bearings and begin to drift off course.
- This is why _____ is so important.
- *"Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."* **Titus 1:9**
- *"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."* **Hebrews 13:7**
- Barnabas taught and exhorted this church. Because he was a man of integrity, people listened.
- Barnabas went to Tarsus, found Paul, and brought him to Antioch where Paul would begin his great ministry among the Gentiles. vs. 26
- According to Acts 20:28-31, leaders have the responsibility to:
 - ⇒ _____ the flock.
 - ⇒ _____ the flock.
 - ⇒ _____ the flock.
- Do you pray for the leaders here at CrossRoads? This should be a _____ prayer.