



“Imitating Jesus”

Pastor Bill Keith – February 26, 2023

Text: Acts 11:19-26

Vs 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.)** (NLT)

I. What a Christian is not

- A. Being an American
- B. Being a church member
- C. Being a lodge member
- D. Being a good person

II. What Being a Christian Means

- A. Where did the name “Christian” come from?
 - 1. First used at Antioch.
 - 2. Used to describe followers of Christ.
 - 3. Literal meaning = “Little Jesus”
- B. The name describes those that imitate Jesus.
- C. The name Christian is used to describe a “twice born” person. John 3:1-7; 1 Pet. 1:23
- D. A Christian is one who is following and obeying Christ. 2 Cor. 5:17
- E. A Christian is a person that has been forgiven of their sins by Christ. Rom. 4:8
- F. A Christian is a person that knows that they have Eternal Life. 1 John 5:13

III. Would you like to become a Jesus Imitator?

- A. Are you a Christian?
- B. Do you want to become one?
- C. Would you like to start your journey with Jesus today!

Antioch

“Antioch was a chief center of early Christianity during Roman times. The city had a large population of Jewish origin in a quarter called the Kerateion, and so attracted the earliest missionaries.”

“Evangelized, among others, by Peter himself, according to the tradition upon which the Patriarch of Antioch still rests its claim for primacy, and certainly later by Barnabas and Paul during Paul's first missionary journey. Its converts were the first to be called Christians. This is not to be confused with Antioch in Pisidia, to which the early missionaries later travelled.”

“The Christian population was estimated by Chrysostom at about 100,000 people at the time of Theodosius I. Between 252 and 300 AD, ten assemblies of the church were held at Antioch and it became the seat of one of the five original patriarchates, along with Constantinople, Jerusalem, Alexandria, and Rome.”

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antioch>

“Consider the birds of
the sky: They don’t sow
or reap or gather into barns,
yet your heavenly Father
feeds them.”

MATTHEW 6:26 (CSB)

