

Acts 11

How would you feel if you had to defend your actions, the ones God told you to take, to your fellow Christians who you thought were your friends? In this chapter Peter had to do this.

1. Peter was criticized by some fellow Christians when he returned to Jerusalem from Caesarea because of his associating with Cornelius and his family, who were Gentiles. (11:1-3) How did he defend himself? (11:4-17) What was the response of his accusers to his defense? (11:18) How can we apply what Peter and the early church learned to today?

We next learn about the early church in Antioch, where believers were first named “Christians”.

2. How did the church in Antioch first get started? (11:19-21) How did our church?
3. How did the church in Jerusalem react to this? (11:22)
4. What did Barnabas do in Antioch? Who was his assistant? (11:23-26) What would you have done there, and how do you help new Christians now?

5. How did the Christians in Antioch help their fellow Christians in Jerusalem? (11:27-30) How is our church helping Christians in other places?