



Acts 11: 19-26: The progress of the Gospel

Our speaker was Dr VJ 'Sam' Samkutty from All Nations Christian College (he's currently acting Principal and CEO). He didn't prepare questions for us but here are some suggestions you might like to use in homegroups this week.

Read Acts 11: 19-26 again.

What struck you particularly from Sam's message on this passage? Take time to reflect and share on how you found listening to an Indian preacher and what he brought to us from the Scriptures.

Why do you think it is that persecution brings about church growth?

In what way did Barnabas participate in the ministry of the church in Antioch? What attitude does this show on the part of the Jerusalem church who sent him?

What was the church in Antioch like (see also Acts 13:1-3)? How can we at MRC learn from them?

What struck you during the Q&A over lunch – what take away points do you have?

Some of you will have come away from lunch with some prayer pointers for India which Tom Banks prepared. They are also reproduced below. It would be great if your group could also give some time to prayer along those lines. If you still have the little slips highlighting individual people groups of India, make use of those too.

- Pray for the light of the gospel to reach the 2041/2272 unreached people groups (+1.3 million people)
- Praise God for a ruling against anti-conversion laws, which have been used to target religious minorities.
- Give thanks for church pastors standing firm in the face of opposition. Pray for protection for them and their families, and for more opportunities for training.
- Pray that believers facing pressure and persecution will be encouraged to stand strong in their faith.