

sermon notes

Sept 7, 2025 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church
No Other Name | “Showdown in Cyprus” | **Acts 13:1–12**

- 1) Faithful, fruitful Christian ministry requires _____
(13:1–3)

- 2) Faithful, fruitful Christian ministry requires _____
to the Holy Spirit (13:4)

- 3) Faithful, fruitful Christian ministry requires _____
(13:5)

- 4) Faithful, fruitful Christian ministry requires _____
in the face of opposition (13:6–13)

Questions for further application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Acts 13:1–3. Make some observations about the church in Antioch. What was happening in the church? Who was leading the church? What were the teachers like? Why would the Holy Spirit send out two of the strongest leaders in the church?

Read Acts 13:4–12. Why did Paul and Barnabas go to the island of Cyprus? Who was leading them? How does the Holy Spirit lead us in our lives? Why did Paul and Barnabas proclaim the word of God in the synagogues?

Some of the practices we see in the church at Antioch are still normative in the church today (e.g., prayer, evangelism, teaching, missions). But what about fasting? What about the Holy Spirit speaking (perhaps audibly) to the church? What about Paul striking someone blind with his words? Are these activities normative? Why or why not?

GET PERSONAL

The church in Antioch was a worshiping church. Acts 13:2 says that they were faithfully worshiping/serving the Lord. Do you desire to faithfully worship and serve Christ? What does that require? How have you served Christ in the past? Has it been a burden to serve him, or has it been a joy?

Of the four requirements for Christian service above, which is strongest in your life? Which is weakest? How can deficiencies in these areas hinder fruitfulness?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Have you ever told God you are willing to serve him and asked him to lead you? Have you taken advantage of the opportunities he has brought you? What are some reasons or excuses we often give to avoid serving God (e.g., selfishness, busyness, costliness, time constraints, fear, feelings of inadequacy)? Where are some places you can begin serving the Lord right now in his church?

ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER STUDY

The church in Antioch sent out their best leaders for mission work. Should churches today imitate that example? How should a church raise up leaders? Should they send them out? How do they unleash them for ministry? What kinds of ministry activities can a church raise up leaders for (e.g., preaching, teaching, church planting, cross-cultural evangelism)?