
Series: *Becoming a Contagious Congregation*

When God Lends a Hand

Acts 11:19-30

Focal verse: v. 21 *"The Lord's **hand** was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord."*

WHEN GOD'S HAND IS ON A CONGREGATION:

1. THERE IS POWER.

- **Evidence of God's Power at Antioch**
 1. People were being saved. (v. 21b; 24b)
 2. God was raising up leaders. (v. 22; 26)
 3. Lives were being changed. (v. 26)
 4. Ministry was happening. (v. 29)
- **No Church Can Become Contagious on Its Own Strength**

Psalm 62:11 (NKJV)

God has spoken once, twice I have heard this: That power belongs to God.

- **Contagious Churches Plug Into the Power of Christ**

Matthew 28:18 (KJV)

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mark 14:62 (NASB-U)

And Jesus said, "I am; and you shall see the SON OF MAN sitting at the RIGHT HAND OF Power, and coming with the clouds OF HEAVEN."

2. IT IS FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.

- **The Leaders Must be Filled with the Spirit**

v. 24a *"He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith . . ."*

Acts 13:9 (NIV)

Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit...

- **The People Must Be Filled With the Spirit**

Acts 13:52 (NIV)

And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

- **Being Filled With the Spirit Requires Surrender**

How Can You Be Filled With the Spirit?

- 1. You must ask.**

Luke 11:13 (NIV)

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

- 2. You have to make room.**

Ephesians 5:18 (TEV)

Do not get drunk with wine, which will only ruin you; instead, be filled with the Spirit.

- 3. You must be obedient to the command.**

Ephesians 5:18 (TEV)

... be filled with the Spirit.

- 4. You enjoy the results.**

- Melody in the heart - Ephesians 5:19, 20
- Harmony in the home - Ephesians 5:21-6:4
- Duty in work - Ephesians 6:5-9
- Victory in battle - Ephesians 6:10-24