

## HOW TO GROW A CHURCH Acts 11:19-30

So how does a church grow in a city like ours?

1. A church grows when the saints are not **silent** (v.19-24).
  - a. A church grows when the saints **speak the Word** (v.19, 20 *lalountes*—"speak").
  - b. A church grows when preachers **preach the Word** (v.20 *euangelizomenoi*—"proclaim").
  - c. A church grows when new believers listen to teachers **teach the Word** (v.23 *parekalei*—"teach and encourage").
2. A church grows when it has enough **ministry helpers** (v.25-26).
3. A church grows when believers truly **follow Jesus**—"Christians" (v.26).
4. A church grows when their faith affects **their finances** (v.27-30).

5. A church grows when **God's hand** is on it (v.21)!
  - a. God's hand was on them in spite of the **evil culture**.
  - b. God's hand was on them in spite of **persecution**.
  - c. God's hand was on them in spite of discouraging **circumstances**.
  - d. God's hand was on them in spite of the **sports-crazed** and **pleasure-seeking** culture.

Can you be **convicted** of following Jesus?

*Lk. 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."*

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