

# IT TAKES COURAGE

*Part 6*

## It Takes Courage to Trust During Transitions

Acts 11:19-30

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When the saints were scattered abroad during Saul's persecution of the church (Acts 8:1), some of them ended up in Antioch, the capital of Syria, 300 miles north of Jerusalem. (Don't confuse this city with Antioch in Pisidia, Acts 13:14). There were at least sixteen Antiochs in the ancient world, but this one was the greatest.

When the persecuted believers arrived in Antioch, they did not at all feel intimidated by the magnificence of the buildings or the pride of the citizens. The Word of God was on their lips and the hand of God was on their witness, and "a great number" of sinners repented and believed. It was a thrilling work of God's wonderful grace.<sup>1</sup>



- **God Knows How to Find You.**

- God's unseen hand often uses unknown men/women to win unreached people (vv. 19-20).



- **God Knows How to Affirm You.**

- Your culture and background are a blessing, not a hindrance, in the Lord's hands (vv. 22-23).

- **God Knows How to Grow You.**

- He knows how to grow your number (vv. 21, 24).
- He knows how to grow you in obscurity (v. 25).
- He knows how to grow you through discipleship (v. 26).

- **God Knows How to Reveal You.**

- Trials reveal who we are (vv. 28-29).