The Profile of a Christian
Acts 11:19-30

Introduction:
A. No name is more honored nor abused that “Christian.”
B. Our text is the first time Christian is used in the Bible.
   1. Believed to be a fulfillment of Isaiah 62:2.
   2. Used twice after this (Acts 26:28; 1 Pet. 4:16)
C. How would you describe a Christian?
D. A close verse by verse look at our text should help us profile a Christian.

Discussion:
I. Verses 19-21
   A. One that has heard the gospel, believed it and turned to the Lord
      1. Turning involves obedience (Acts 3:19 - {ASV, NIV} with Acts 2:38)
      2. Can on be a Christian and not be in Christ? Baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3)
   B. One who is unconcerned about who gets credit for good.
      1. What were the names of those who started the Antioch church?
      2. Our concern should be that God get the glory? (Cf. 1 Cor. 3:5-7)
   C. One who talks the Bible (v. 19)
      1. The went “speaking” or talking the word (ASV)
      2. We talk about politics, the weather, our work, our neighbors.
      3. Seldom talk about the Bible.
   D. One who is not a quitter (v. 19)
      1. Persecution did not stop those early Christians.
      2. Compare to little things that cause “Christians” to quit today.
   E. One who is indebted to others (v. 20)
      1. What if these had stayed in Jerusalem? No church at Antioch.
      2. What if all had been like those in verse 19? – Only Jews would be saved.
      3. All are indebted to those who brought them the gospel.
   F. One who wants to share the gospel. (v. 20)
      1. Acts not only book of conversion, but book of sharing the gospel with the lost.
      2. Understand more that what to do to be saved – what it means to be saved.
      3. Cannot be a Christian and not want to share gospel with others (cf. Rom 1:14-16).

II. Verses 23-24
   A. One with a supreme purpose (“purpose of heart” – cf. Matt. 6:33)
      1. Singleness of heart or purpose (Acts 2:46)
      2. Every thing else must serve that purpose.
   B. One who cleaves to the Lord (v. 23)
      1. Like the marriage relationship (Matt. 19:5).
      2. Christians married to the Lord (Rom. 7:1-4)
   C. One in whom graced of God can be seen (v. 23; cf. Matt. 5:16).
   D. One who is a good person (v. 24)
      1. One can be good person and not Christian, but not Christian an not be good.
      2. A mean person cannot be Christian – if mean to husband, wife, neighbor, etc.

III. Verse 26-29
   A. One who assembles (v. 26; cf. Heb. 10:25)
   B. One who accepts responsibility (v. 29)
      1. Not as little as can do.
      2. But as much as can do – according to ability.
   C. One who is in the Lord’s church.
      1. None were members of any other church.
      2. “Everlasting name” within Lord’s house and walls (Isa. 56:5).
      3. Church is God’s house (1 Tim. 3:15) – how many houses does He have?

Conclusion:
A. Are you a Christian like those at Antioch?
B. If not, why not become one now?