

Sermon 讲道信息
 May 5 月 31, 2026
 Acts 使徒行传 13:1-3; 1Cor 哥林多前书 16:5-9
 Open Doors 敞开的门

Let's begin our sermon with a question (please answer in your mind, not aloud): **Using one word, how would you describe Trinity Baptist Church?**

让我们以一个问题开始今天的讲道 (请在心里回答，不要出声)：只用一个词，你会如何描述三一浸信教会？

What word came to mind? Healthy? Growing? Family? Fun? Friendly? **Nice?**

你脑海中浮现的是哪个词？健康？成长中？家的感觉？欢乐？友善？蛮不错？

Let's hold that thought for a moment, we are going to come back to it.

让我们先把这想法放在一边，稍后我们会再回到这里。

Now, we will examine one of the earliest churches established by Paul and his colleagues in the city of Antioch, ancient Syria (now Turkey), as mentioned in our text.

现在，我们要看经文中提到，由保罗和他的同工在古代叙利亚 (今土耳其) 安提阿所建立的最早期的教会之一。

This overview provides insight into the character, structure, and nature of this particular church.

这概览让我们看见这间教会的特质、结构和本质。

We note by the names attached to the church that it was multi-cultural and consisted of members of mixed socio-economic standing and status.

从教会成员的名字中，我们注意到这是个多元文化的群体，成员来自不同社会经济背景和地位。

It seems that the Antioch church was open to all. This would have been revolutionary in its time!

安提阿教会似乎向所有人敞开大门。这在当时可是极具革命性的！

Already, in the earliest days of the church, we note a focus on developing leaders (*"Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers..."*)

早在教会初创时期，我们注意到他们注重培养领袖 (*"在安提阿的教会中，有几位先知和教师....."*)

They were eager to worship and to seek God's will and leading through prayer and fasting (*"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting..."*)

他们热切敬拜并通过祷告和禁食寻求神的旨意与引导 (*"他们在事奉主和禁食的时候....."*)

They were expecting God to "speak" to them (*"the Holy Spirit said..."*) We're not told exactly how this happened.

他们期待神向他们“说话” (*"圣灵说....."*)，但经文并未具体说明这是如何发生。

But however God's voice was heard, we note that they returned to more fasting and prayer before following the direction to appoint Barnabas and Saul (Paul) as missionaries.

但无论神的声音是如何被听见的，我们注意到，在遵照指示委派巴拿巴和扫罗 (保罗) 为宣教士之前，他们再次禁食和祷告。

They wanted to be sure they had heard God loud and clear, and that they acted on **His** will, not their own (how easily we can confuse the two!).

他们想确认自己已清晰听见神的声音，并且遵行祂的旨意而非自己的意愿 (我们多么容易将这两者混淆啊!)。

But we note that once they were confident that they had heard the voice of the Lord, and were clear on His will, they **acted** (*"So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off."*).

但我们注意到，一旦他们确信自己听见了主的声音并清楚祂的旨意，他们便付诸行动 (*"于是他们禁食祷告后，给他们接手，然后派遣他们走了"*)。

It is one thing to ask God to "speak", but we must prove our sincerity through absolute obedience in our subsequent actions!

求神“说话”是一回事，但我们必须通过后续行动中的绝对顺服来证明自己的诚意！

Now, let's go back to my original question (*"What one word would you use to describe your church?"*).

现在，让我们回到我最初的问题（“你会用哪一个词来描述你的教会”）。

No doubt all the words I suggested at the beginning of our sermon would fit the church at Antioch, except for one: ***"nice"***.

毫无疑问，我在讲道开头提到的所有词汇都适用于安提阿教会，唯独一个例外：***"蛮不错"***。

If you were to prepare an extravagant gourmet dinner enthusiastically consumed by your guests and their only response was: *"Well, that was nice"*, you would probably be offended. *"Nice"* is faint praise!

如果你精心准备了一顿盛宴，宾客们吃得津津有味，却只说一句：“嗯，蛮不错的”，你大概会觉得被冒犯了。“蛮不错”只是敷衍的称赞！

The church at Antioch was so much more than *"nice"*. We see a church that was looking outwardly, actively and dramatically seeking to change their world.

安提阿教会远不止于“蛮不错”。我们看到的是一间目光向外、积极且强烈地寻求改变世界的教会。

The record tells us that they conflicted with secular authorities and caused tensions in families.

记载告诉我们，他们与世俗权柄发生冲突，并在家庭中引起紧张关系。

According to their detractors, they sought to *"turn the world upside down"* (Acts 17:6 KJV), highlighting their impactful evangelism and the transformative power of their faith and message, which challenged the existing order.

根据他们的反对者所言，他们试图“*搅乱天下*”（徒 17:6），显明了他们影响深远的传福音事工，以及他们信仰与信息所蕴含的变革能力，对当时既有秩序形成了挑战。

The Antioch church demonstrated that a church which aims to be more than *"nice"* is a church that longs and intends to touch and change the world through the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

安提阿教会表明，一间不满足于只是“蛮不错”的教会，是一间渴望并且立志借着耶稣基督福音的大能，去触动和改变世界的教会。

A world impacting church is a mission minded church!

一间影响世界的教会，是一间怀有宣教心志的教会！

Because of the attitude of the believers at Antioch, the greatest missionary of the early church was identified, affirmed, and sent out. This was Saul, who became known as the Apostle Paul.

正因安提阿信徒们的态度，初代教会最伟大的宣教士才得以被发掘、被认可并被差遣出去。这人便是扫罗，后来被称为使徒保罗。

In our text in 1 Corinthians 16, we learn that Paul desired to spend some quality time with the Believers in Corinth.

在哥林多前书第 16 章中，我们得知保罗希望花时间与哥林多的信徒深入相处。

He had an especially close and meaningful bond with this congregation that he had helped to plant.

他与这个自己曾参与建立的教会有着特别亲密且深厚的纽带。

He longed to continue the ministry there, building up the new Christians and touching the wider community with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

他渴望在那里继续他的事工，建立初信者，并以耶稣基督的好消息影响更广大的群体。

He also was seeking their support and encouragement as he traveled the wider area of Asia Minor, often putting life and limb at risk.

他也希望在自己冒着生命危险往返小亚细亚各地时，得到他们的支持与鼓励。

But he has decided to delay his visit and remain in the city of Ephesus *"because"*, as he explains, *"a great door for effective work has opened to me."*

但他决定推迟访问，留在以弗所，正如他解释，“*因为有又宽大又有效的门为我开了*”。

Paul was open and sensitive to the leading of the Lord by His Spirit. He was able to recognize that the city was now ready and receptive to His ministry, so he responded in obedience.

保罗对主藉着圣灵的带领十分敏锐，也愿意顺服。他认出这座城市此刻已准备就绪，乐于接受他的事工，于是他以顺服回应。

As it turned out Paul would remain in Ephesus for three years, helping to found and ground a healthy and thriving congregation which would become a leading church in all Asia Minor.

后来，保罗在以弗所停留了三年，帮助建立并坚固了一间健康兴旺的教会；这教会后来成为整个小亚细亚的重要教会。

Paul, through the leading of the Spirit, saw a “door” and he stepped through it!

保罗在圣灵的引导下，看见了一扇“门”，于是他踏入了那扇门！

Looking closely at Pauls’ ministry, we note at least **three “open doors”** which God has called every true church to courageously pass through.

仔细观察保罗的事工，我们注意到至少有三扇“敞开的门”，这是神呼召每一间真教会勇敢踏入的。

First, there is the door of opportunity. 首先，是一扇机会之门。

At first glance, Ephesus might not seem like an obvious place for witness and ministry.

乍看之下，以弗所似乎并非一个明显适合见证和发展事工的地方。

The city was a bustling hub of commerce and culture, filled with a diverse mix of people from various backgrounds and beliefs.

这城市是繁华的商业与文化中心，汇聚了形形色色、来自不同背景和信仰的人群。

It was also famous for being the centre of worship for Artemis (also known as Diana), the goddess of fertility—a tradition that had lasted for a thousand years across Asia.

它还因作为生育女神亚底米（又名戴安娜）的敬拜中心而闻名，这传统在亚洲地区已经延续了千年之久。

An enormous and impressive temple dedicated to Artemis dominated the city, and this ancient religion held deep, widespread influence throughout society.

一座宏伟壮观的亚底米神庙耸立于城中，而这古老宗教在整个社会中有着深远而广泛的影响。

There were so many good reasons to walk on by Ephesus: He would be just one lone voice in a city filled with many; he would put himself at risk of offending the religious and civil leaders, to name just two.

有太多理由让人对以弗所视而不见：保罗不过是这城众多声音中一把孤独的声音；他会冒着得罪宗教和民间领袖（仅举两例）的风险。

But Paul saw beyond the spectacle and frenzy of this great city. Paul **saw** the people, just as Jesus saw the crowd that dogged his steps.

保罗看穿了这巨大城市表面的喧嚣与狂热。他**看见**的是人，正如耶稣看见那紧随其后的群众一样。

Matthew tells us: *“When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd”* (Matt.9:36).

马太告诉我们：“*[耶稣]看见一大群人，就怜悯他们；因为他们困苦无助，如同羊没有牧人一样*”（太 9:36）。

This is how Paul saw the people of Ephesus. He saw the spiritual thirst and knew he had the source of eternal “water” to quench it.

保罗是这样看待以弗所的人：他看见了他们灵里的干渴，也知道他拥有能解这干渴的永恒“活水”的源头。

He beheld spiritual hunger and knew that he had the “food” to meet the need.

保罗目睹了属灵的饥饿，深知他拥有能够满足这需要的“食物”。

May we too see the people of our community through the eyes of our Savior. May we have eyes of love and grace.

愿我们也以救主的眼光来看待我们社区中的人。愿我们拥有爱与恩典的眼光。

May we, like Jesus, be moved by compassion to carry the Good News across the table, across the room, across the street, across the city, across the nation, across the world.

愿我们像耶稣一样，怀着怜悯之心，将福音传遍餐桌、房间、街道、城市、国家乃至全世界。

May we be ready and willing to step through the “door of opportunity.”

愿我们随时准备好并乐意踏入这扇“机会之门”。

Second, there is a “door of obligation”. 第二，是一扇“责任之门”。

It is clear from Paul's writings that he was driven by a very personal sense of obligation.

从保罗的书信中可以看出，他深受非常个人化的责任感驱使。

In our text he declared that the “door...has opened to **me**”. Earlier in this same letter, he explains: “*I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel*” (1Cor.9:16).

在今天的经文中，他宣告说：“有又宽大又有效的门为**我**开了”。在同一封书信稍早之前，他解释说：“我传福音.....因为我是不得已的，若不传福音，我就有祸了”（林前 9:16）。

In his letter to the Romans, he frankly states that he is “*obligated...to preach the gospel*” (1:14,15). Why did Paul feel this way?

在写给罗马人的书信中，他坦率地表示自己“欠[在罗马的人]的债，所以..把福音也传给他们。”（1:14,15）。为什么保罗会有这样的感受？

In his letter to the church at Galatia, Paul declared: “*I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ*” (Gal.1:11-12).

在致加拉太教会的书信中，保罗宣告：“弟兄们，我要你们知道，我所传的福音不是按照人的意思；因为我不是从人领受的，也不是人教导我的，而是藉着耶稣基督的启示而来”（加 1:11-12）。

He admits: “*I am simply discharging the trust committed to me*” (1Cor.9:17). His ultimate obligation was to His Lord and Saviour!

他承认：“责任却已经托付给我了”（林前 9:17）。他最终的责任是向他的主和救主负责！

In a defense before a murderous crowd in Ephesus, it is clear from Paul’s recitation of the details of his miraculous conversion that he understood that his call to share the Gospel was from the Lord himself.

在以弗所面对那想要杀害他的人群为自己辩护时，保罗详细讲述了他神迹般的归信经历，由此清楚看出，他明白自己传福音的呼召是来自主自己。

He reports that Jesus said to Him: “*Get up...and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned to do.*”

他提到耶稣对他说：“起来，进大马士革去，在那里有人会把指派你做的一切事告诉你”。

Ananias, speaking on God’s behalf, prophesied over the new convert: “*You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard*” (Acts 22:10,15).

亚拿尼亚奉神的名向这位新归信者预言：“因为你要将所看见的、所听见的，对着万人作他的见证人”（徒 22:10,15）。

Paul also deeply felt the need to make amends to the early church for his previous fervent persecution, a memory that occasionally brought shame and regret as he admits:

保罗也深切感到，自己对早期教会的激烈迫害有作出补偿的需要。这记忆时常令他感到羞愧和懊悔，他承认：

“*I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I’m not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God’s church.*”

“我原是使徒中最小的，不配称为使徒，因为我曾迫害过神的教会”。

But instead of defeating him, his shame fueled his enthusiasm for witness, as he claimed:

但这份羞愧非但没有击垮他，反而激发了他见证福音的热情，如他所言：

“*But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles*” (1Cor.15:9-10 NLT).

“然而，由于神的恩典，我才成了今日的我，并且他所赐给我的恩典不是徒然的。我比众使徒格外劳苦”（林前 15:9-10）。

We, today, share Paul’s experience and call in at least two ways:

今天，我们至少在两方面与保罗有相同的经历与呼召：

Like Paul, we are **called** to tell the Good News to anyone who asks, as the Apostle Peter directs:

像保罗一样，我们**被呼召**向所有询问的人传讲福音，正如使徒彼得所吩咐的：

“*But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to*

give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect” (1Pet.3:15-16a).

“只要心里奉主基督为圣，尊他为主。有人问你们心中盼望的理由，要随时准备答覆；不过，要以温柔、敬畏的心回答” (彼前 3:15-16 上)。

And, on top of this, our church is **commissio**ned to be witnesses to the world, far and near, and “*make disciples of all nations*” (Acts 1:8; Matt.28:19-20).

此外，我们的教会还蒙受差遣向世界作见证，无论远近，并“使万民作我的门徒” (徒 1:8；太 28:19-20)。

But the call we share with Paul, and all Believers, goes even deeper. We are each recipients of God's love, grace and mercy.

但我们与保罗及所有信徒共同的呼召，更为深远。我们每个人都是上帝的爱、恩典与怜悯的领受者。

And just as we were treated, so we must also show love, grace, and mercy to all. This is a holy obligation.

既然我们如此被对待，我们也必须向所有人彰显爱、恩典与怜悯。这是神圣的责任。

Like Paul, we have been entrusted with a great light, the Light of Life in Christ, which must shine through:

如同保罗一样，我们被托付了大光，就是基督里生命之光，这光必须照耀出来：

“For God, who said, “*Let light shine out of darkness, made his light shine in our hearts...*” (2Cor.4:6). Jesus was clear: “*You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others*” (Mt.5:14,16).

“因为神曾说：‘那吩咐光从黑暗里照出来的神已经照在我们心里’ (林后 4:6)。耶稣说得很清楚：“你们是世上的光.....你们的光也要这样照在人前” (太 5:14,16)。

Do you accept this obligation today? 你今天愿意接受这责任吗？

And finally, there is a door of opposition. 最后，还有一扇“反对之门”。

We might think that if we accept our commission or obligation and carry it out faithfully, all will go well.

我们或许以为，只要接受我们的使命或责任并忠心履行，一切都会顺利。

But Paul's experience suggests otherwise. Although he enjoyed a huge positive response in many places, at the same time he faced significant opposition.

但保罗的经历却并非如此。尽管他在许多地方都获得极大的正面回应，但同时他也面临着巨大的反对。

We see a dramatic example of this in the city of Ephesus, where his great success stirred up vociferous resistance.

我们在以弗所城看见一个鲜明的例子：保罗取得的巨大成功，反而激起了强烈的抵抗。

We find the craftsmen, who made a good living selling images and other talismans around the great temple of Artemis (or Diana) in an uproar as they noted their profits falling as more and more turned to Christ, leaving the pagan religion behind.

那些在亚底米 (或戴安娜) 大庙周围靠贩卖偶像和各种护身符谋生、收入颇丰的工匠们，眼见越来越多的人离弃异教、归向基督，导致他们的利润锐减，便愤怒不已。

They accused Paul of undermining their religion, or more to the point, their profits.

他们指控保罗破坏他们的宗教，或者更确切地说，是破坏他们的利益。

Paul, by this time, had left the city, so they dragged his colleagues in with nefarious intentions. These apostles only survived when the crowd was quieted by local authorities (Acts 19:23-41).

此时，保罗已离开那城，于是他们怀着恶意将保罗的同工们抓来。这些使徒仅因当地的官员平息了骚乱才得以幸免于难 (徒 19:23-41)。

But the fact is, many Believers before and since have suffered, and even made the ultimate sacrifice for their commitment to share the Good News with others.

但事实是，在此之前及之后的许多信徒，都曾因致力于向他人传扬福音而遭受苦难，甚至献上了生命的代价。

We think of the first Christian martyr, the Apostle Stephen. Luke reports that, after he had preached a powerful and accusatory Gospel sermon:

我们想到首位基督徒殉道者——使徒司提反。路加记载，在他宣讲了一篇满有力量和控诉的福音讲章后：

“the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him... they covered

their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him” (Acts 7:54,57,58).

“[公会的]众人听见这些话，心中极其恼怒，向司提反咬牙切齿……众人大声喊叫，捂着耳朵，齐心冲向他，把他推到城外，用石头打他” (徒 7:54,57,58)。

Persecution of Believers began here and has continued in varying degrees to the present. Christian martyrdom and persecution is not just a problem of the past.

对信徒的逼迫从这里开始，并持续到今天，只是程度不同而已。基督徒的殉道与迫害绝非仅是过去的问题。

Open Doors, a long-time ministry to the persecuted, reports that more than 388 Million Christians around the world face high levels of persecution and discrimination for claiming the name of Christ!

“敞开的门” (Open Doors) ——长期服事受逼迫信徒的机构——的报告指出，全球有超过 3.88 亿的基督徒因信奉基督之名而面临严重的迫害与歧视！

In stark numbers, 3632 churches and Christian properties were attacked, 4712 Believers were detained, and, most tragically, 4849 lost their lives!

具体数据令人震惊：3632 间教堂及基督教产业遭到袭击，4712 名信徒被拘留，而最令人痛心的是，4849 人失去了生命！

This should not have come as a surprise to the early Christians, or as a shock to us. Jesus clearly warned:

这对初代基督徒而言本不该感到意外，对我们来说也不该是震惊。耶稣曾明确警告：

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first... If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also” (Jn 15:18,20).

“世人若恨你们，你们要知道，他们在恨你们以前已经恨我了……他们若迫害了我，也会迫害你们” (约 15:18,20)

We, like our Saviour, carry a message of love, hope, and salvation, but also a call to submission and obedience to the Lord of Lords. Some in power cannot bear this!

如同我们的救主一样，我们传递着爱、希望与救恩的信息，但同时也带着降服与顺从万主之主的呼召。有些掌权者无法忍受这一点！

Before us is a door of opportunity, obligation and opposition.

摆在我们面前的，是机会之门、责任之门，以及反对之门。

Are we content to be just a **“nice”** church?

我们是否满足于仅仅成为一间“蛮不错”的教会吗？

Or are we ready and willing to step through the doors before us, so that all may hear and know the Good News of Jesus Christ?

还是我们已经准备好并愿意踏入摆在我们面前的这些门，让所有人都能听到并认识耶稣基督的福音？

This decision comes with a warning: it requires faith, courage, and deep commitment to go through these doors. A price may have to be paid!

这决定伴随着一个警告：要踏入这些门，需要信心、勇气，以及深深的委身。也许有必须付出代价！

May we at Trinity have the courage and faith to follow our Lord wherever He leads!

愿我们三一教会的人都能怀着勇气和信心，无论主引领我们到哪里，都愿意跟随祂！