

“Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called “the black man” ), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas ), and Saul.” Acts 13:1 NLT

## lectio // Acts 13:1-12

What happens when a group of prophets and teachers get together to pray? Well, God speaks. So five guys are meeting together to worship and FAST. Apparently, where two or three gather in Jesus name, Jesus joins them! They were at one of the Antioch house churches. What a group! We know Saul (Paul) and Barnabas. But wow! Simeon? Is this the man who carried Jesus crossbeam for awhile? And Manaen, childhood friend of King Herod? What a power group! They hear the voice of the Spirit and together they decide that Paul and Barnabas have very specific assignment and it was time to get on with it. When prophets aren't prophesying and teachers aren't teaching, what are they doing? They are worshiping and fasting! Directly pointing out the fact that for every moment a “power” or “vocal” gift is being used there should be equal time behind the scenes where no one sees the essential, critical times of a personal and corporate time of worship, prayer and fasting. And out of that time, alone with God, the Spirit of God speaks and directs. These small verses are the foundation and the catalyst for the powerful ministry of missions and church planting across the entire New Testament geography. This is where it all started.

## oratio

Dad,

Spiritual leaders worship, together and alone. They pray, they fast and they listen for the voice of your Spirit to guide them. This truly is where all things Godly begin. Small, unknown, almost secretive times when we meet with you together. Then you show up, probably randomly to us, but timely and focused to you. This is how I want to lead, with our teachers, prophets, evangelists, pastors and apostles. This is how we move forward.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root