



Small Group Study Questions

Week 20

Acts 12:24-13:12

24 But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied.

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who was also called Mark.

13 Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was there, prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” 3 Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper.

6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name was Bar-Jesus, 7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence. This man summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for so his name is translated) was opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, who was also known as Paul, [c]filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze on him, 10 and said, “You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord? 11 Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time.” And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, being amazed at the teaching of the Lord.

DIGGING DEEPER

Have you ever seen the work of God grow and multiply around you? Tell us about it...

Have you ever been told or felt that God had set you aside for a specific purpose? If he did in the future, how would you react?

Read Acts 12:24-25

Why does the “word of the Lord” continue to grow despite the persecution?

What was Barnabas and Saul’s mission in Jerusalem? (**Read Acts 11:27-30 for the answer**)

Read Acts 13:1-3

What were these men doing before God spoke?

Have you ever spent time fasting and praying? If you have, what was the purpose?

Read Acts 13:4-12

Note with your group how each of the following is described: John; Bar-Jesus (Elymas); Sergius Paulus; Saul (Paul)

DIGGING DEEPER

Why was Bar-Jesus/Elymas blinded?

What did the proconsul believe (vs 12)?

Why were Paul and Barnabas successful?

How can we be successful in the ministry that God has given us?

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYER REQUEST

