

## I. Text:

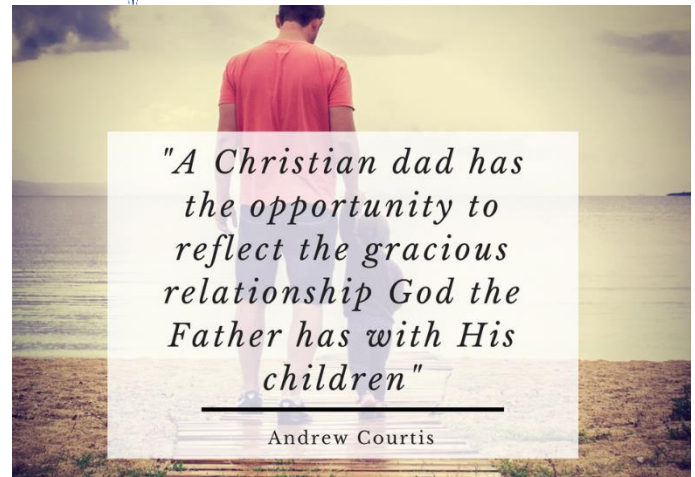
**Acts 13:52** <sup>52</sup> And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

**Eph. 6:4** <sup>4</sup> Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

**Col. 3:21** <sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

**1 Jn. 2:13-17** <sup>13</sup> I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. <sup>14</sup> I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. <sup>15</sup> Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

**Eph. 5:25** <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,



Can you think of any other Biblical passages than those above that specifically address or have commands for dads/fathers?

## II. Introduction:

- What kind of DAD are you?** (strengths and weaknesses) What would your wife say? What would your children say? What would your believing friends say? What would unbelieving friends say? **What does God say?**
- Radio Program: Today In Perspective with Dr. Harry Reeder – Series: A Biblical Duty for Dads - U.S. Census Bureau, **17.8 million children, nearly 1 in 4, live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home.** Study by the Swiss Government (1990s)...If both Father and Mother attend church regularly, 33% of their children will end up attending church regularly, 41% will attend occasionally, and 25% will not attend at all. If the Father is not attending church at all and the mother attends church regularly, just 2% of their children will become regular worshippers, 37% will attend occasionally, and over 60% will be lost completely to the church. Why Ephesians 6 specifically addresses DADS to bring up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
- Youth from our youth group in Denver: "I wish my parents disciplined me – at least then I would know that they care about me." (**Hebrews 12:5-13**)

How can you/Christian dads practically improve their mission to evangelize, disciple, discipline, and instruct their children in the Lord?

## III. Evaluation Questions for Christian Dads

- Are you pursuing your God-given role not only as a Protector and Provider, but also as the Spiritual Head/leader of your home who loves, nourishes, and cherishes his wife (**Eph. 5:25-33**), and who loves his children by training, evangelizing, and disciplining his children in the fear and admonition of the Lord? (**Proverbs 22:6**)
- Do you have clear household rules, standards, and expectations? (**Exodus 20:3-17**)
- Do you have clear and consistent consequences – disciplining your children in truth and love not anger or abuse? (**Hebrews 12:9-13**)
- Are you leading regular family worship/devotions & praying with your wife & kids? (**Col. 3:12-17**)
- Are you spending quality time disciplining/mentoring your children? (**Deut. 6:4-9**)
- Are you loving your children in the greatest way possible by Biblically loving their mother/your wife? (secure, peaceful, loving home) (**Col. 3:19**)
- Are you the spiritual leader, pacesetter, and good spiritual example to your children? (**1 Tim. 4:12**)
- Are you faithfully obeying the commands in Scripture specifically addressed to fathers? (**Eph. 6:4, Col. 3:21, 1 John 2:13-14**)

Which of these questions or areas are you convicted by the Lord that you need to work on the most?

#### IV. Main Points: Biblical Character of Christian Father

**Galatians 5:22-26** 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

1. **Loving** / caring, kind, encouraging VS hateful, uncaring, de-edifying
2. **Joyful** / happy, positive, worshipful VS grumpy, critical, negative, depressed
3. **Peaceable** / reconciling, investing/pursuing relationships VS fighting, arguing, complaining
4. **Patient** / forbearing, merciful, forgiving VS impatient, fault-finding, record of wrongs
5. **Excellent** / upright, useful VS lazy, unproductive, disorder
6. **Good**/ Righteous, obedient VS Deceitful, Lying, Hypocritical, evil
7. **Faithful** / overcoming, enduring VS quitter, traitor, compromiser
8. **Gentle** / gracious/meek/ VS angry, harsh, quick-tempered
9. **Self-controlled** / self-disciplined, self-denial VS self-sufficient, self-focused, self-absorbed
10. **Humble** / teachable/correctable VS Proud, self-centered, selfish
11. **Thankful** / grateful/appreciative VS bitter, unforgiving, retaliatory
12. **Truthful** / knowledgeable, wise, discerning, doctrinal, trustworthy VS Ignorant, Foolish, Naïve
13. **Fruitful** /productive, growing VS Unfruitful, weak, wasteful, declining
14. **Prayerful** / powerful, insightful, persevering VS proud, blind, sinful, deceived, distracted

Which of these character qualities or fruits of the Spirit are strengths and which are weaknesses?

#### Application: Resolved – to repent, recommit, and reach out (accountability)!

(The Resolutions of Johnathan Edwards) (Lord Jesus Help me THIS DAY prayers)

**Acts 13:43** Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, were urging them to continue in the grace of God.

**Acts 11:23-24** 23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; 24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

#### Repent - Recommit - Reach Out (Reset, Refit, Retool, Resolve)

I. **Repent**/renounce/confess your sin(s) to God (Put off ALL sin)

II. **Recommit** - Make a Decision - Commit, Resolve, Pursue (Put on ALL righteousness)

III. **Reach Out**/Share your plan with others/Seek Accountability (ask them to pray for you, keep you accountable/ ask the hard questions regularly, and encourage you to reset when you fail or fall short)

A. **Set and Keep a Biblical Schedule** with your spiritual priorities planned and non-negotiable (early to bed, early to rise, disciplined in fruitfruits)

1. Consistent in Personal Devotions (Qtime, AWG, Power – Pray, Organize, Word, Exercise, Recite/review)
2. Consistent in Family Devotions (Family Worship – read, discuss, pray, memorize)
3. Consistent in Church (Worship, Fellowship, Service, Evangelism, Discipleship)

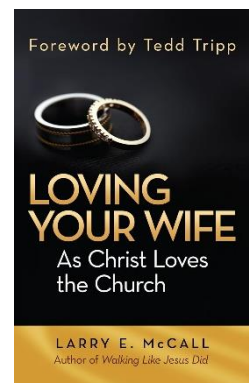
B. **Set and Keep a Biblical Lifestyle**

1. Healthy diet – drink more water, portion control, limit sugar, carbs, processed/fast foods, caffeine, eat more fruits, vegetables, protein, set times to eat, consider some fasting, eliminate alcohol, nicotine, drugs
2. Physical Exercise – cardio/endurance, weights/strength training, stretching/flexibility
3. Time Management - Be more productive/eternal minded (Read Christian books, learn an instrument or foreign language instead of wasting your time with TV/movies/internet/social media/video games)

C. **Set and Pursue specific Biblical Goals** (day, week, month, year, 3 year, 5 year, 10 year)

1. Relationship with God (Devotional Life) (Ex. Read the Bible through in 6 months before 50<sup>th</sup> bday)
2. Relationship with Spouse (Married Life) (Ex. Plan/pray together, daily walks, read marriage book, plan & keep more time together, prioritize/communicate/listen to M above others)
3. Relationship with Children (Ex. Parenting Life) (Ex. Get individual time with each kid each week, disciple with 7 TBC classes)
4. Relationship with Believers (Church Life) (Ex. Invite every TBC member over for dinner this year)
5. Relationship with Unbelievers (Evangelism/Witnessing Life) (Ex. Make the most of every opportunity) (Ex. D.L. Moody talk to at least one person about the Lord each day)

List the top 3 ways you can better love your wife as Christ loved the church (**Ephesians 5:23-33**)?



# TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



## FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO...

### LOVE GOD SUPREMELY

**Matthew 22:37-38** <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." <sup>38</sup> "This is the great and foremost commandment.

### SERVE PEOPLE SINCERELY

**Matthew 22:39** <sup>39</sup> "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

**John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

### REACH THE LOST URGENTLY

**Matthew 28:19-20** <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."


# Acts 13:44-52

44 The next Sabbath nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began contradicting the things spoken by Paul, and were blaspheming. 46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.



# Acts 13:44-52

47 "For so the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'" 48 When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. 49 And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region. 50 But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. 51 But they shook off the dust of their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.



# What kind of person am I / are you? (TLJTPFF)

1. Truthful
2. Loving
3. Joyful
4. Thankful
5. Powerful
6. Fruitful
7. Faithful

# The kind of leaders we need and are looking for:

## KFATLE

- ▶ Knowledgeable,
- ▶ Faithful,
- ▶ Available,
- ▶ Teachable,
- ▶ Loving,
- ▶ Example

# What kind of DAD are you? (strengths and weaknesses)

- ▶ What would your wife say?
- ▶ What would your children say?
- ▶ What would your believing friends say?
- ▶ What would unbelieving friends say?
- ▶ What does God say?



# A Biblical Duty for Dads

## Today In Perspective with Dr. Harry Reeder

### Briarwood Presbyterian Church

Today  
In Perspective

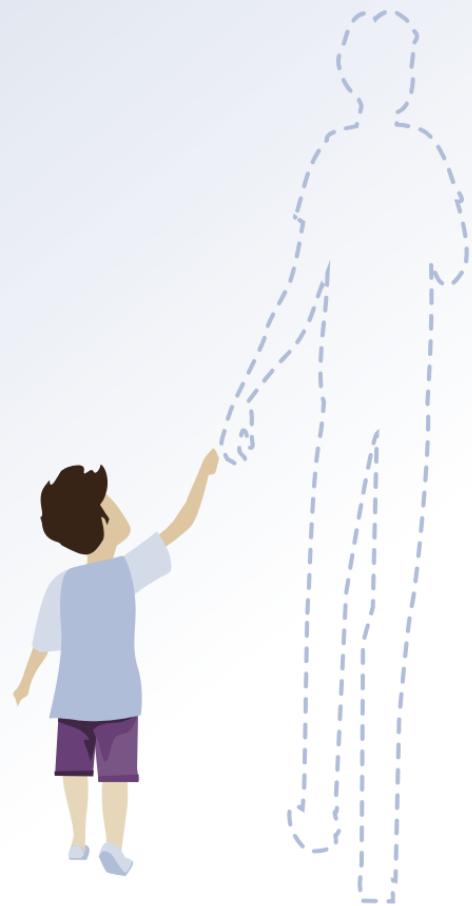
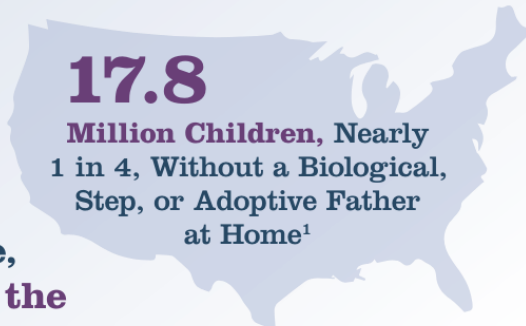


- ▶ According to the U.S. Census Bureau, **17.8 million children**, nearly 1 in 4, live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home.\*
- ▶ That's enough children to fill New York City twice or Los Angeles four times over.
- ▶ Research shows that a father's absence affects children in numerous unfortunate ways, while a father's presence makes a positive difference in the lives of both children and mothers.
- ▶ Study by the Swiss Government (1990s)
- ▶ If both Father and Mother attend church regularly, 33% of their children will end up attending church regularly, 41% will attend occasionally, and 25% will not attend at all.
- ▶ If the Father is not attending church at all and the mother attends church regularly, just 2% of their children will become regular worshippers, 37% will attend occasionally, and over 60% will be lost completely to the church.
- ▶ Why Ephesians 6 specifically addresses DADS to bring up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

\*U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). Living arrangements of children under 18 years old: 1960 to present. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau.

# The **Father Absence Crisis** in America

Research shows<sup>2</sup> when a child is raised in a **father-absent home**, they are affected in the following ways...



- ⊖ Greater Risk of Poverty
- ⊖ More Likely to Have Behavioral Problems
- ⊖ Greater Risk of Infant Mortality
- ⊖ More Likely to Go to Prison
- ⊖ More Likely to Commit Crime
- ⊖ More Likely to Become Pregnant as a Teen
- ⊖ More Likely to Face Abuse and Neglect
- ⊖ More Likely to Abuse Drugs and Alcohol
- ⊖ More Likely to Suffer Obesity
- ⊖ More Likely to Drop Out of School

# The **Strengths** of **Father Presence**

Children with **involved fathers** have a **strong foundation** for **child well-being**.



They are at **lower risk** for a host of **poor childhood outcomes**.



- ✓ Infant Mortality
- ✓ Low Birth Weight
- ✓ Emotional and Behavioral Problems
- ✓ Neglect and Abuse
- ✓ Injury
- ✓ Obesity
- ✓ Poor School Performance
- ✓ Teen Pregnancy
- ✓ Incarceration as Juveniles
- ✓ Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- ✓ Criminal Activity
- ✓ Suicide

# Factors that Predict Father Involvement

Many factors affect how involved a father is with his children.

These are the most vital. They create strong bonds between fathers and their children.



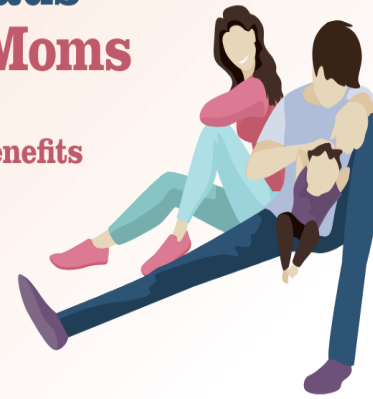
- ✔ Good Parenting or Co-Parenting Relationship
- ✔ Stable Relationship with Partner/Other Parent
- ✔ Partner/Other Parent Supports His Involvement
- ✔ Friends and Family Support His Involvement
- ✔ Employer Supports His Involvement
- ✔ Satisfied with Marriage
- ✔ In or Finished a Fatherhood or Parenting Program
- ✔ Involved in His Partner's Pregnancy
- ✔ Lives with Children
- ✔ Being a Dad Vital to His Identity
- ✔ Confident in His Fathering Abilities
- ✔ Children Look Like Him
- ✔ No Depression
- ✔ No Substance Abuse
- ✔ No Domestic Violence
- ✔ Partner/Other Parent Doesn't Restrict Access to His Children

Source: National Fatherhood Initiative® 2024. *Father Facts: Ninth Edition.* Germantown, MD: National Fatherhood Initiative®.

National Fatherhood Initiative®  
www.fatherhood.org

# Why Involved Dads are Good for Moms

Mothers reap a host of benefits when fathers are involved during pregnancy and in raising their children.



- ✔ More likely to receive prenatal care
- ✔ Less likely to smoke during pregnancy
- ✔ Healthier births
- ✔ Lower risk of post-partum stress
- ✔ Lower risk of post-partum depression
- ✔ Lower parenting stress
- ✔ More leisure time
- ✔ Higher marital satisfaction

Source: National Fatherhood Initiative® 2024. *Father Facts: Ninth Edition.* Germantown, MD: National Fatherhood Initiative®.

National Fatherhood Initiative®  
www.fatherhood.org

# Why Involved Dads are Good for ...Dads!

When men become dads and are involved in their children's lives, they transform in many ways. They:

- ✔ Are happier
- ✔ Have better physical and mental health
- ✔ Live longer
- ✔ Have less depression
- ✔ Have increased self-esteem
- ✔ Are more active in their community
- ✔ Are more involved with civic groups
- ✔ Are moved to:
  - Adopt a healthier model of masculinity
  - Reduce alcohol and substance use
  - Find stable, secure jobs
  - Better manage and save money
  - Strengthen family ties



National Fatherhood Initiative®  
www.fatherhood.org

Source: National Fatherhood Initiative® 2024. *Father Facts: Ninth Edition.* Germantown, MD: National Fatherhood Initiative®.

1. Are you pursuing your God-given role not only as a Protector and Provider, but also as the Spiritual Head/leader of your home who loves, nourishes, and cherishes his wife (**Eph. 5:25–33**), and who loves his children by training, evangelizing, and disciplining his children in the fear and admonition of the Lord? (**Proverbs 22:6**)
2. Do you have clear household rules, standards, and expectations? (**Exodus 20:3–17**)
3. Do you have clear and consistent consequences – disciplining your children in truth and love not anger or abuse? (**Hebrews 12:9–13**)
4. Are you leading regular family worship/devotions & praying with your wife & kids? (**Col. 3:12–17**)
5. Are you spending quality time disciplining/mentoring your children? (**Deut. 6:4–9**)
6. Are you loving your children in the greatest way possible by Biblically loving their mother/your wife? (secure, peaceful, loving home) (**Col. 3:19**)
7. Are you the spiritual leader, pacesetter, and good spiritual example to your children? (**1 Tim. 4:12**)
8. Are you faithfully obeying the commands in Scripture specifically addressed to fathers? (**Eph. 6:4, Col. 3:21, 1 John 2:13–14**)

# Youth from our youth group in Denver:

- ▶ “I wish my parents disciplined me – at least then I would know that they care about me.”

**Hebrews 12:5–13** "MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE REPROVED BY HIM; 6 FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES." 7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8 But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. 11 All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. 12 Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

# Biblical Character of Christian Father

**Galatians 5:22–26** 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

1. **Loving** / caring, kind, encouraging VS hateful, uncaring, de-edifying
2. **Joyful** / happy, positive, worshipful VS grumpy, critical, negative, depressed
3. **Peaceable** / reconciling, investing/pursuing relationships VS fighting, arguing, complaining
4. **Patient** / forbearing, merciful, forgiving VS impatient, fault-finding, record of wrongs
5. **Kind** / excellent, upright, useful VS lazy, unproductive, disorder
6. **Good** / Righteous, obedient VS Deceitful, Lying, Hypocritical, evil
7. **Faithful** / overcoming, enduring VS quitter, traitor, compromiser
8. **Gentle** / gracious/meek/ VS angry, harsh, quick-tempered
9. **Self-controlled** / self-disciplined, self-denial VS self-sufficient, self-focused, self-absorbed
10. **Humble** / teachable/correctable VS Proud, self-centered, selfish
11. **Thankful** / grateful/appreciative VS bitter, unforgiving, retaliatory
12. **Truthful** / knowledgeable, wise, discerning, doctrinal, trustworthy VS Ignorant, Foolish, Naïve
13. **Fruitful** / productive, growing VS Unfruitful, weak, wasteful, declining
14. **Prayerful** / powerful, insightful, persevering VS proud, blind, sinful, deceived, distracted

FOREWORD BY Jentezen Franklin

PASTOR, FREE CHAPEL

REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION

# FASTING

for Spiritual  
Breakthrough

.....  
*A Practical Guide to*

NINE  
BIBLICAL  
FASTS

OVER  
400,000  
COPIES  
SOLD

ELMER L. TOWNS

Foreword by Tedd Tripp



# LOVING YOUR WIFE

As Christ Loves  
the Church

LARRY E. McCALL  
Author of *Walking Like Jesus Did*

JOHN  
MACARTHUR



LORD, TEACH ME

to

PRAY



AN INVITATION TO INTIMATE PRAYER

Copyrighted Material

Foreword by Tedd Tripp



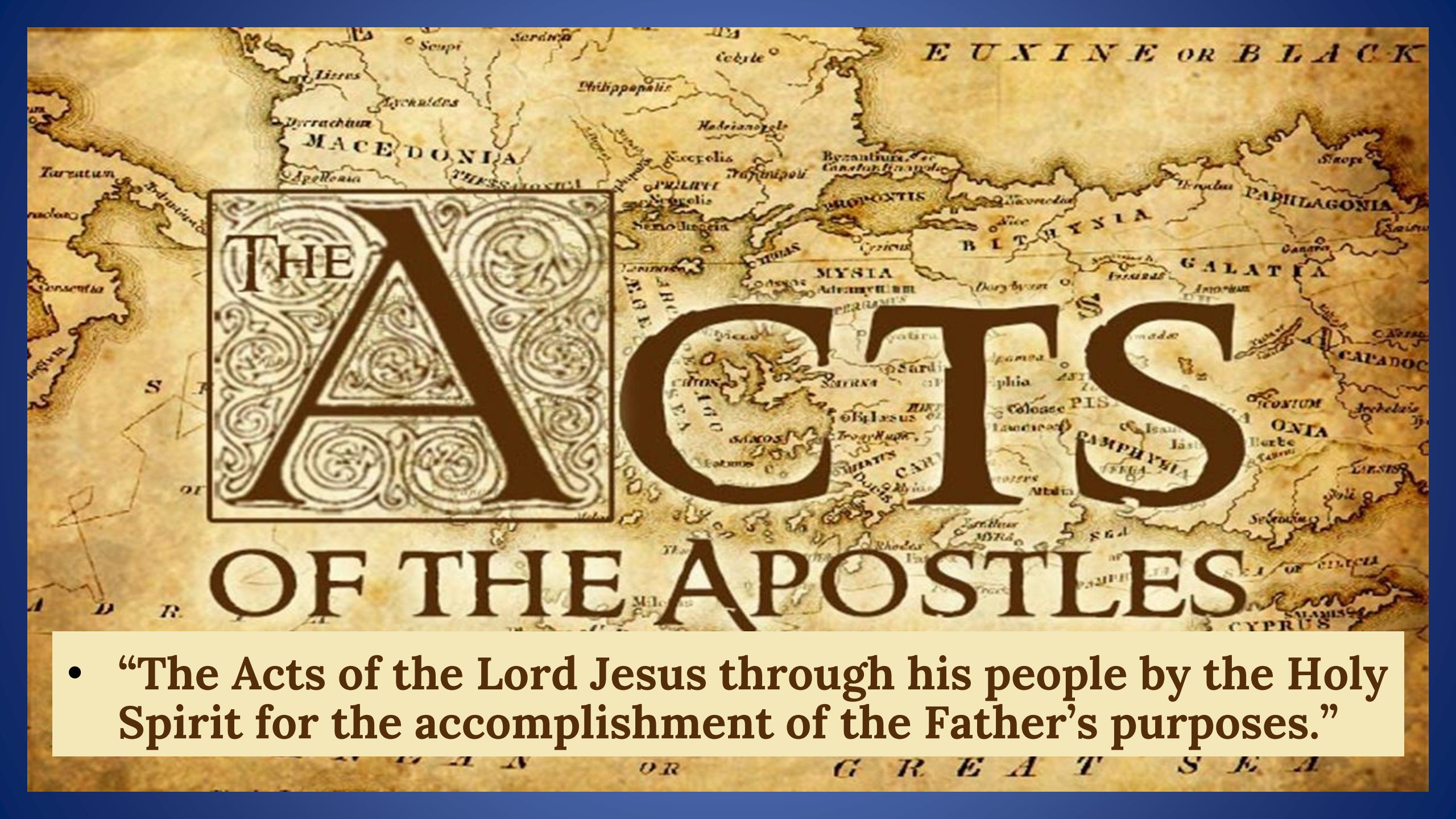
# LOVING YOUR WIFE

As Christ Loves  
the Church

LARRY E. McCALL  
*Author of Walking Like Jesus Did*

- ▶ **Who:** TBC Men (**Faithful Men Ministry**)
- ▶ **What:** Summer Bible & book study (**Loving Your Wife** – 14 chapters)
- ▶ **When:** Every Thursday this summer (7:30–8:30a) (June, July, August)
- ▶ **Where:** Randy Stubbs House (backup location is the TBC Church Office)
- ▶ **Why:** Christ has commanded all of us in Ephesians 5 to love our wife as He/Jesus loved the church (selflessly, sacrificially, unconditionally) and we ALL struggle to do this or can improve greatly our agape/divine love towards our spouse.
- ▶ **\*\*\***Zoom will be available for remote access



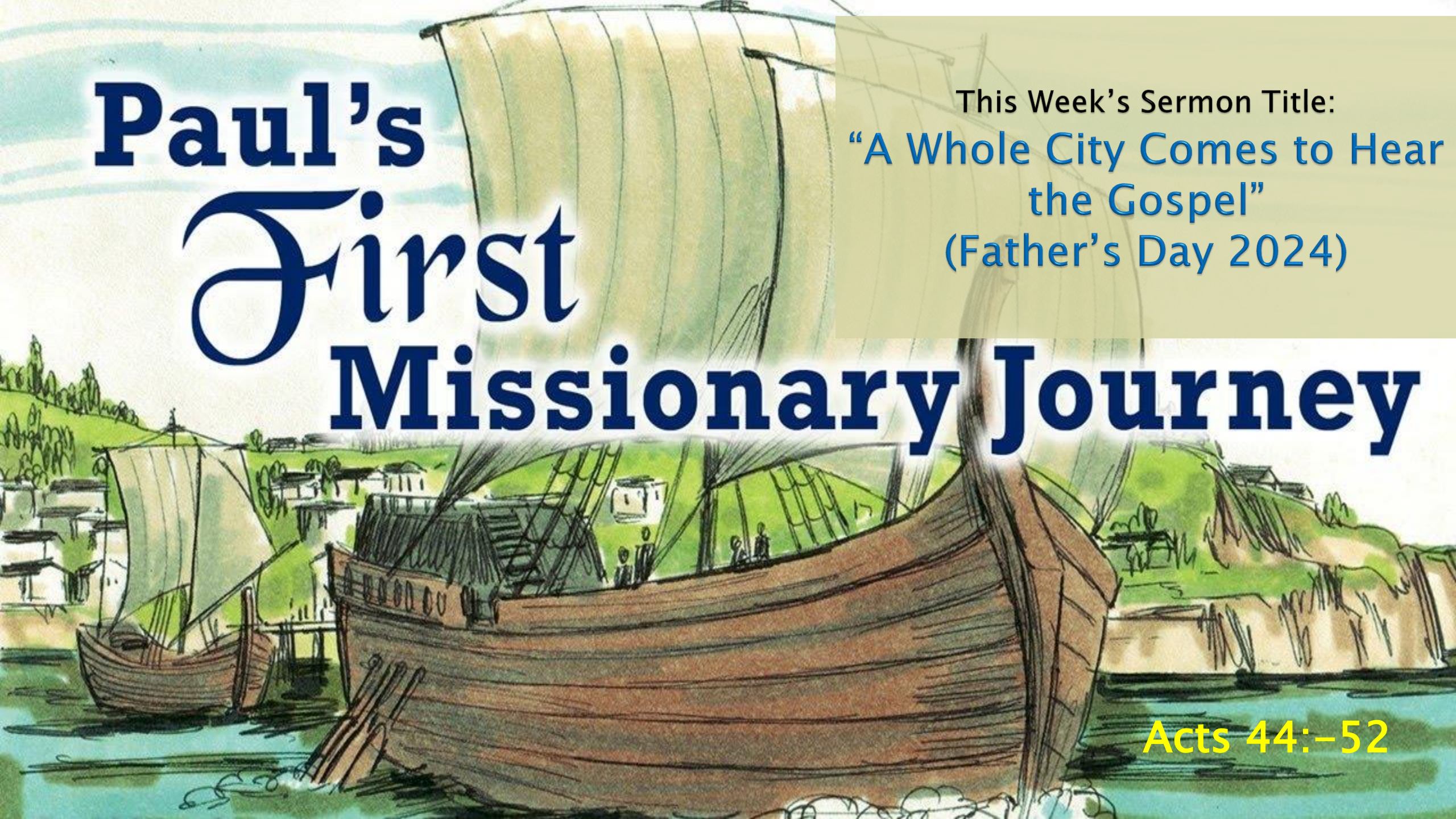


**THE ACTS**  
OF THE APOSTLES

- “The Acts of the Lord Jesus through His people by the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the Father’s purposes.”

Paul's First Missionary Journey • AD 47–49 • Acts 13:1–14:28





# Paul's First Missionary Journey

This Week's Sermon Title:  
"A Whole City Comes to Hear  
the Gospel"  
(Father's Day 2024)

Acts 44:-52

## Teaching Outline of Acts 13:14–52

### I. (13:14–16) Good Preaching Principles

- **Read** the Text (Dt. 17:18–20, Dt. 31:11, Josh 8:34, 2 Kings 22:8, Neh. 8:1–8, 18, 9:3, \*\*\*1 Tim. 4:13)
- **Explain** the Text (Exposition) (Neh. 8:8, Acts 13:15, 20:2, Rom. 12:8, 15:4–5, 1 Cor. 14:3, 1 Tim. 4:13, Heb. 13:22)
- **Apply** the Text (Application) (Mt. 7:24–26, Luke 6:47, Romans 2:13, Col. 3:22–23, James 1:22–25, 1 Peter 3:3–4)
  - Stand up to passionately plead with people to **FEAR** God and **LISTEN** to God through His Word

### II. (13:17–41) Paul's Sermon at Pisidian Antioch

1. Key Verses / Main Points
2. OT Citations / Parallel Verses
3. Commands / Overall Application

### III. (13:42–52) Aftermath/results of the sermon

## Teaching Outline of Acts 13:14–52

### III. (13:42–52) Aftermath/results of the sermon

- A. (13:42–43) Asking for more teaching...continue in the grace of God
- B. (13:44–47) Rejection of the Jewish unbelievers (jealousy, contradicting, blaspheming)
- C. (13:48) Celebration of the Gentile believers (rejoicing, glorifying)
- D. (13:49) The Word of the Lord kept **SPREADING** to the whole region
- E. (13:50–51) The **Persecution** by the Jewish unbelievers (incited prominent women, leading men, drove them out) and **Perseverance** of Paul and Barnabas (shook dust off/went on)
- F. (13:52) The New Disciples were continually filled (**JOYFUL** and **POWERFUL/useful** by the Holy Spirit)

Acts 13:44 The next Sabbath nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of the Lord.

13:44 The whole city assembled to hear the word of the Lord – while it would be awesome if all of the city came out to hear the gospel?

2022 Census data: 114877K in St. Mary's County and 94573 Calvert County

Hollywood/20636 as 11K, California/20619 MD 14K,  
Callaway/20620 1K, Lexington Park/20653 27K, Leonardtown/20650  
15k, Great Mills/20634 8K, 1k Pax River/20670

13K Prince Frederick/20678, 21K Lusby/20657, Solomons/20688  
1k, 500 Broomes Island/20615, St. Leonard/20685 7K, Port  
Republic/20676 3k, Huntingtown/20639 15k

Acts 13:45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began contradicting the things spoken by Paul, and were blaspheming.

**13:45** Jealous Jews – jealous because of the numbers/crowds/public interest

Nothing new under the sun – humans always have and will struggle with popularity, acceptance, fame, etc.)

but also contradict (oppose, challenge, say something different)

and even blaspheme – speak untruths, lies, and evil specifically about God).

Acts 13:46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

**13:46** Paul and Barnabus meet this opposition with BOLDNESS – bold in that they don't avoid confrontation, they address it head on, and even boldly state and expose the sin going on

...specifically YOUR REPUDIATE/reject the gospel and especially the hard but true reality – you have “judged yourselves unworthy of eternal life (condemnation/damnation/eternal separation),

and even end with a bold statement that addresses long standing prejudice, hatred, and racial division – “we are turning to the Gentiles (who you thought were unworthy of eternal life – but are, are loved by God, are included in salvation – Jesus did die for their sins, and so the gospel is offered to EVERYBODY.



Acts 13:47 "For so the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"

**13:47** Light to the Gentiles – Isaiah 42:6, 49:6, 60:3, Luke 2:32, 1 Peter 2:9

Salvation to the ends of the earth (Psalm 67:2, 98:3, Isaiah 52:10, Ps. 2:8, 22:27)

Acts 13:47 "For so the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"

**13:48a** When you and I realized, grip, grasp that you have been saved, all that you have been saved from, and how gracious /gloriously the Lord loved and accomplished salvation for us...

You and I will (or should) rejoice and glorify God for our salvation just as the Gentiles rejoice and worship God here when they realize that Jesus' salvation reaches to them too!

Acts 13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

▶ **13:48b** Just because the strong Calvinist love and focus on this verse – doesn't mean we shouldn't recognize its strong implications that extol the graciousness and sovereignty of God in salvation while not demanding at all that we ascribe to the whole system of Calvinism.

▶ **τάσσω** *tasso*: to draw up in order, arrange

▶ [UBS] **τάσσω** (pf. inf. τεταχέναι ; pf. pass. τέταγμαί, 3 sg. τέτακται) appoint, designate, set aside; command, order, direct ( ὑπὸ ἐξουσίαν τασσόμενος under the authority of superior officers Lk 7.8); institute (of governmental authority); devote (to service); midd. equivalent to act. fix, set (Ac 28.23); tell, direct (Mt 28.16)

▶ [Fri] **τάσσω** 1 aor. ἔταξα, mid. ἐταξάμην; pf. τέταχα; pf. pass. τέταγμαί; (1) *assign to a place or task, appoint, decide* (AC 15.2); passive, in relation to properly constituted authority *be instituted, be appointed, be established* (RO 13.1); (2) passive, with an abstract noun ὅσοι ἦσαν τεταγμένοι εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον *as many as had become disposed toward eternal life* (possibly AC 13.48) or *all those who were appointed to eternal life* (probably AC 13.48); (3) as determining a fixed time or course of events, middle for active *arrange, order, appoint* (MT 28.16; AC 28.23); (4) as doing something regularly and devotedly *give oneself to* (1C 16.15)

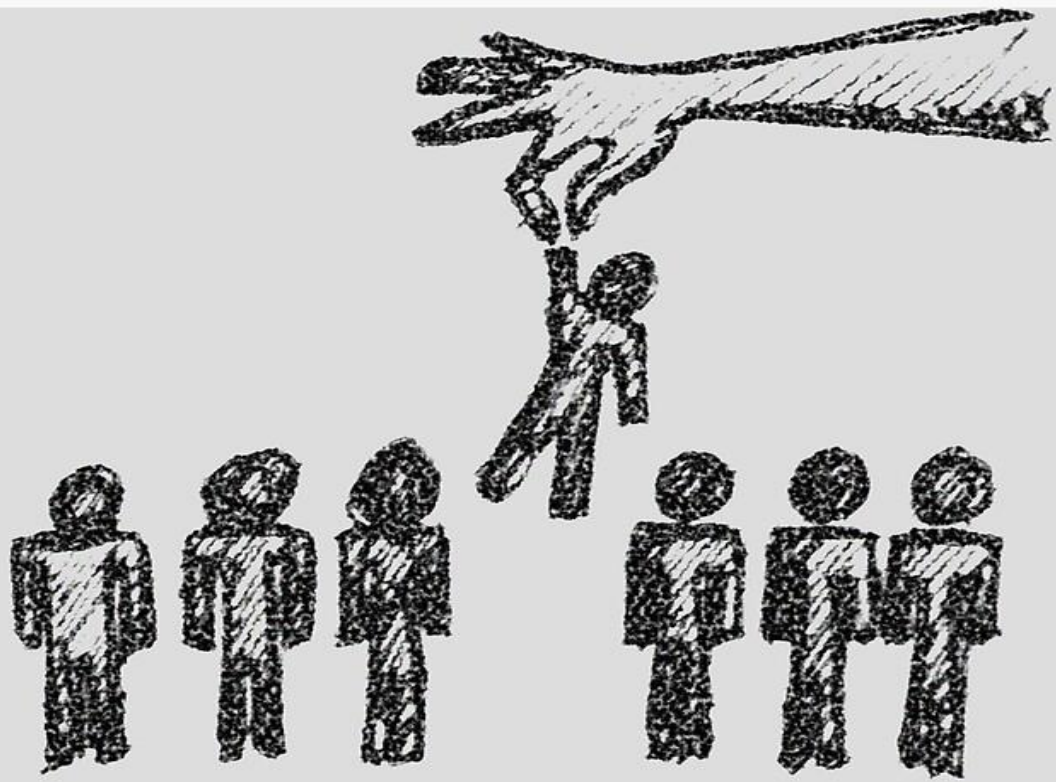
Acts 13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

- ▶ **13:48b** Just because the strong Calvinist love and focus on this verse – doesn't mean we shouldn't recognize its strong implications that extol the graciousness and sovereignty of God in salvation while not demanding at all that we ascribe to the whole system of Calvinism.

Yes, unless God foreknew, forordained, planned, and provided salvation – none of us would be saved, none of us would have anything to respond to, repent towards, or put our faith in – thus the credit and glory for salvation goes ALL to God. He did love and choose us first before we choose Him or reciprocate His love. His predestination or election of us does precede us and go all the way back to before the creation of the world, and so we can glory in the fact that He did choose us, call us, die for us, draw/convict us, send someone with the gospel for us, and yes convince us/enable us to have total faith in Him and His salvation without sight.

But nor does this negate the responsibility of man to repent and believe by faith, to respond to salvation by seeking, hearing, coming, choosing,, believing, and following Jesus not because we are forced to believe, follow, or worship, but out of our limited free will we reciprocate God's love and desire to have personal relationship with us. Nor does this verse say that God limits salvation, or that man is born again/regenerated BEFORE or in order to repent and have faith, but it does mean that God already knows by His perfect omniscience those He has chosen/appointed for salvation which is also as a mystery those who willingly repent, believe, and follow Him as Lord.

Yet, I caution both the Calvinists and Arminians not to try to figure out exactly how or why salvation works from God's perspective, especially any speculation that goes beyond what the Scripture clearly states about salvation – but simply and humbly accept some of the mysteries of salvation and just be glad/rejoicing and glorifying/worshipping God because you just know its real, its available, and that it's your own – you yourself have been saved. And so I gently ask do all of you have assurance of salvation?



as many as were appointed to eternal  
life believed. Acts 13:48

# *Exegesis-*

When you start with the text and draw out its meaning, only after study & analysis, do you formulate interpretations of, or reactions to what you read.

**Acts 13:48**

# *Eisegesis-*

When you take things out of context to support just about any presuppositions and/or prejudices you already had.

# Calvinized

“When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were

unconditionally appointed by God before the foundation of the world for eternal life believed.”

Acts 13:48



(RE)THINKING



ROMANS 9

WHY BOTH ATHEISTS AND CHRISTIANS NEED TO BELIEVE IN FREE WILL

IS FAITH AN EFFECTUAL GIFT? PART 2: EPH 2:8-9 BY ISAAC BARRETT

THE REFORMED Have A Conflation Problem

JOHN 6 DEBATE REVIEW BY LEIGHTON FLOWERS VS. PASTOR GABRIEL HUGHES

Election Means "To Choose" - Exegesis of Eph 1:4 and 2 Peter 3:9

Calvinism Obscures the Simple Gospel

IS THE TRADITIONAL STATEMENT SEMI-PELAGIAN?

CALVINISM & PASTORAL CARE

Fallacies of Style WHITE VS WILSON

THE ACOLYTE DIALOGUES

CHOICE MEAT & BAD FORM

Born Again by God's Will not Free Will?

A More Meaningful World

God: The Initiator of Salvation

ACTS 13:48

WHAT SEMIPELAGIANISM REALLY IS

NO ONE SEEKS GOD?

CALVINISM VS. WOLINISM WITH DR. ADAM LLOYD JOHNSON

GOD MAKES CHOICES

Calvinism AND THE PROBLEMS OF DAMNATION AND HELL

The Standard of Seriousness

A Conversation With A Reprobat

THE STORIES WE TELL

BOASTING IN YOUR BELIEF

FEAR AND HERESY HUNTING

WHAT YOU MEANT FOR EVIL, GOD MEANT FOR GOOD

Born of God: Historical Context Shapes Theology

GOD'S PROMISE FOR ALL

My Journey Out of Calvinism

THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY

A CHARITABLE DISCOURSE: IS HUMILITY BAD?

3 Objections Election

Rocks In Socks

Arminian Permission vs. Calvinist Permission



FRISTRATED WILDMEN WURLD?

The Work

WHY I'M NOT A CALVINIST

WHY I'M NOT A CALVINIST

WHY I'M NOT A CALVINIST

WHAT ST. AUGUSTINE THE FIRST TO INTRODUCE 'CALVINISM' INTO THE CHURCH?

Leighton Flowers Scares a Bible Thumping Wingnut

IS Faith Meritorious?

Chosen?

The Two Pardons of Basil Manly, Sr.

LIMITS VS PROVISION ATONEMENT

THE ACOLYTE DIALOGUES: EPISODE 4

A REPLY TO BRIAN ABRASCIANO

MENTAL DISORDERS FREE WILL & ROMANS 7

TRANSCENDENT MIDAS TOUCH

NO Obligation

The Unwanted Child?

Who Are The Elect?

No one can do good?

How Divine Permission Establishes Free Will

Tiptoeing Through TULIP

ARE YOU BETTER THAN YOUR FRIEND WHO REFUSED TO BELIEVE?

DEFENDING A LAMB STANLEY

THE FATE OF THE UNCHANGING

GOD DOES NOT SHOW FAVORITISM

DID JOHN MACARTHUR TEACH INCLUSIVISM?

FLOWERS MAN BAD

JOHN 6 IS NOT ABOUT YOU

IS JOHN 6:44 A 'GOTCHA!' VERSE?

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

The Good News of God's Choice

Is "Man-Centered" Theology Bad Theology?

You Ask, Dr. Flowers Delivers (Shorter Videos)

Romans 8:29-30 or How We Can Trust God at His Word

DOES SHOULD ALWAYS IMPLY COULD?

Lead Pastor Leaves Calvinism and Apologizes to the Congregation for Misleading Them

A Response to "5 Myths About Calvinism"

When Calvinism leads to Atheism

RUEBEN ROSS

CALVINISM'S CONFLATION

ARE ALL PEOPLE BORN GOD HATERS?

Acts 13:49 And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region.

**13:49** So we pray this good news/this gospel will like here – spread throughout our entire region (St.Mary's and Calvert County) and to our Samaria (DC and surrounding areas), and to the ends of the earth (all the US and the entire world).



Acts 13:50 But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district.

13:50 But when we are faithful and new people are being saved and added to the church – and the true universal church is growing (meaning the genuine born again Christians who truly belong to Christ around the world are increasing) ... there will be what I call “push back” opposition from Satan and demons, and even persecution from unsaved people who do not love Jesus but rather themselves and their sin, and because they are angry that we are exposing sin, or preaching Jesus as exclusive, or simply because they are jealous or possessed and empowered by the devil (btw all unbelievers are called enemies of God, children of wrath, and children of the devil until they cross over from death to life and repent and believe in Jesus for salvation) to oppose everything of God

– which means they oppose and attack His Word, His Church/true followers, and especially His gospel which is their only way, key, and door for unbelievers to escape the coming judgment of God on the devil, his fallen angels, and all those who refused/rejected the blessed gospel that Jesus Christ lived a perfect life to transfer to us His perfect righteousness so we have right standing before a perfect and Holy God, Jesus Christ died a sacrificial death to satisfy God’s justice against our sins as the atonement necessary for us to be forgiven all our sins/ways we have rebelled against our creator, and Jesus Christ rose victoriously from the dead in order to prove He is God, but also to show He had conquered sin and death on our behalf so that we know His promise to raise us from the dead and bring us into His Kingdom/heaven just as He is raised is absolutely real and guaranteed by God Himself...

But Satan knowingly and unbelievers knowingly and unknowingly resist, reject, and repudiate all of this – because they are in darkness, blind, wretched, depraved... but we are in the light, safe from God’s coming wrath on this wicked world, reconciled/at peace with God, and 100% assured to rule and reign with Him in His coming Kingdom which I believe is very soon as we observe that we are 2000 years after the cross and in the sixth day of a 1000 years before the 7<sup>th</sup> day/Sabbath rest of Jesus’ millennial/1000 year reign on the earth.

Acts 13:51 But they shook off the dust of their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium.

**13:51** Shake the dust of your feet – way to protest back... not with retribution or violence but with prayer for our enemies, moving on to new fertile soil or in this case people and locations that are open and receptive to the gospel.

As 1 and 2 Peter have a theme of endurance of suffering as a Christian – listen – 1 Pet. 2:19-25 <sup>19</sup> For this *finds* favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer *for it* you patiently endure it, this *finds* favor with God. <sup>21</sup> For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, <sup>22</sup> WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; <sup>23</sup> and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously; <sup>24</sup> and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

Acts 13:52 And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

**13:52** Finally – dads on Fathers Day – are you a joyful dad?

Are you a powerful dad who is constantly/continually filled with spiritual power by the Holy Spirit because you are regularly in Prayer with the ultimate Dad/God our Father? ,

Because you regularly saturate your mind and your families minds with Scripture?

And because you are on point, on mission about His business to be a light for Jesus, and ambassador for the gospel, and a herald of the good new of Jesus Christ everywhere you go?

# SO WHAT?

## Application



**Acts 13:43** Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, were urging them to continue in the grace of God.

**Acts 11:23-24** 23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; 24 for he was **a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.** And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

# Repent – Recommit – Reach Out (Reset, Refit, Retool, Resolve)

- I. Repent/renounce/confess your sin(s) to God (Put off ALL sin)
- II. Recommit – Make a Decision – Commit, Resolve, Pursue (Put on ALL righteousness)
- III. Reach Out/Share your plan with others/Seek Accountability (ask them to pray for you, keep you accountable/ask the hard questions regularly, and encourage you to reset when you fail or fall short)

## A. Set and Keep a **Biblical Schedule** with your spiritual priorities planned and non-negotiable (early to bed, early to rise, disciplined in fruitfruits)

- 1. Consistent in **Personal Devotions** (Qtime, AWG, Power – Pray, Organize, Word, Exercise, Recite/review)
- 2. Consistent in **Family Devotions** (Family Worship – read, discuss, pray, memorize)
- 3. Consistent in **Church** (Worship, Fellowship, Service, Evangelism, Discipleship)

## B. Set and Keep a **Biblical Lifestyle**

- 1. **Healthy diet** – drink more water, portion control, limit sugar, carbs, processed/fast foods, caffeine, eat more fruits, vegetables, protein, set times to eat, consider some fasting, eliminate alcohol, nicotine, drugs
- 2. **Physical Exercise** – cardio/endurance, weights/strength training, stretching/flexibility
- 3. **Time Management** – Be more productive/eternal minded (Read Christian books, learn an instrument or foreign language instead of wasting your time with TV/movies/internet/social media/video games)

## C. Set and Pursue specific **Biblical Goals** (day, week, month, year, 3 year, 5 year, 10 year)

- 1. **Relationship with God** (Devotional Life) (Read the Bible through in 6 months before 50<sup>th</sup> bday)
- 2. **Relationship with Spouse** (Married Life) (Plan/pray together, daily walks, read marriage book, plan & keep more time together, prioritize/communicate/listen to M above others)
- 3. **Relationship with Children** (Parenting Life) (Get individual time with each kid each week, disciple with 7 TBC classes)
- 4. **Relationship with Believers** (Church Life) (Invite every TBC member over for dinner this year)
- 5. **Relationship with Unbelievers** (Evangelism/Witnessing Life) (Make the most of every opportunity)



# Lord Jesus Help me THIS DAY prayers...

- ▶ **My relationship with God:** Dear Lord Jesus, help me live THIS DAY for you, for your will and glory. Show me, lead me, and guide me to be all in and all for you – to be successful and pleasing in your eyes alone – that you would have 1<sup>st</sup> place/supremacy in everything I think, do, and say today.
- ▶ **My relationship with my wife:** Dear Lord Jesus, help me love, cherish, and nourish my wife THIS DAY as you love the church. Empower me to love her with agape/divine love that is selfless, sacrificial and unconditional.
- ▶ **My relationship with my children:** Dear Lord Jesus, help me love, teach, and model true authentic and Biblical Christianity to my children THIS DAY. Empower me to evangelize and disciple them with excellence THIS DAY. My heart cry is for all of them to be saved/to come safely into your coming Kingdom, for all of them to marry in the faith and have strong Biblical marriages, and for all of them to raise godly children so there is legacy of faith in my line until you rapture us home.
- ▶ **My relationship with believers:** Dear Lord Jesus, help me to be a good Pastor/Shepherd, and Elder/Overseer, and Preacher/teacher to my church THIS DAY. Empower me to set the example for the believers in speech, life, love, faith, and purity. Protect me from the evil one who seeks to discourage, distract, and destroy me, my family, and your church.
- ▶ **My relationship with unbelievers:** Dear Lord Jesus, help me see and love all people the way you love them – wanting none to perish, desiring all to repent and be saved by the knowledge of the truth/gospel, and urgently going with the gospel to make disciples of all nations seeking to make the most of every opportunity.
- ▶ **My struggle with myself/my desire to be man of God (prayers for myself):** Dear Lord Jesus, help me be a humble, joyful, thankful, gracious, and righteous man THIS day. Empower me by your Holy Spirit to be truthful, loving, powerful, fruitful, and faithful THIS DAY. Guide me, Make me, and enable me to the worshipper, husband, father, Pastor/churchman, and evangelist that you command in your Word. Guard me from selfishness, pride, deception, self-destruction, and all sin. Keep depression, lust, anger, and all worthless things and pursuits far away from me. Make me the man of God you want me to be by your Word, your Spirit/prayer, and Your people/the Church, and your mission/evangelism – the Great Commission.
- ▶ **Overall, my commitment/confession to follow Jesus as Lord:** Dear Lord Jesus, help me as I commit, resolve, and promise to be a faithful slave and disciple who learns, follows, and worships you THIS DAY. May I be fully utilized for your Kingdom and Glory THIS DAY.

Foreword by Tedd Tripp



# LOVING YOUR WIFE

As Christ Loves  
the Church

LARRY E. McCALL  
*Author of Walking Like Jesus Did*

- ▶ **Who:** TBC Men (**Faithful Men Ministry**)
- ▶ **What:** Summer Bible & book study (**Loving Your Wife** – 14 chapters)
- ▶ **When:** Every Thursday this summer (7:30–8:30a) (June, July, August)
- ▶ **Where:** Randy Stubbs House (backup location is the TBC Church Office)
- ▶ **Why:** Christ has commanded all of us in Ephesians 5 to love our wife as He/Jesus loved the church (selflessly, sacrificially, unconditionally) and we ALL struggle to do this or can improve greatly our agape/divine love towards our spouse.
- ▶ **\*\*\***Zoom will be available for remote access