

## **I. Text:**

**Acts 14:8-28** 8 At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. 9 This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well, 10 said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk. 11 When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us." 12 And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out 15 and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, WHO MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM. 16 "In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; 17 and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." 18 Even saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. 19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. 20 But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. 21 After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." 23 When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. 24 They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia. 25 When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. 26 From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished. 27 When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they spent a long time with the disciples.

Overall, how can you account for or explain the huge swing of this crowd from one moment recognizing and trying to worship Paul and Barnabas as Greek gods, then to the next moment stoning Paul and dragging him out of the city? Also, did you notice it was only Paul who was stoned? (Did Paul keep talking, did Barnabas flee, or were they just not together when the crowd suddenly turned on them?)

## **II. Introduction: Paul and Barnabas and the Lord Jesus know that ministry is Hard – people can flip on a dime**

The hardest part of ministry thus far (for Chad) has been the many unexpected deaths of family members since we entered full time ministry 24 years ago in 2000. Second hardest was the internal division/church split in 2012 after confronting an Associate Pastor over Hyper-Calvinism (unbiblical doctrine that God plans/wills/ordains sin). Third, and most ongoing hard part of ministry is all the people who leave the church for relational/preference reasons (not doctrinal or philosophy of ministry reasons) and who don't practice Mt. 18 or Col. 3:12-17 and refuse to meet/communicate with the Elders and who are willing in an instant to jettison their leaders and Christian fellowship/friendships. So the hardest part is all the friends I've lost over the years as a Pastor from my perspective when I first correct/challenge them on sin, or when I say something they disagree with... when I have not changed my doctrine, have not done anything intentional against them, but have genuinely continued to love/shepherd them, teach them, pray for them, and do my best to set a good example for them – only for people to overly criticize or find fault in me, other leaders/Christians, and do not stay thankful or faithful in the church when they have their first relational challenge arise in the church. (Before modern times, you had to work out things in your church because it was the only church/body of fellowship and there was not a buffet of churches to choose from or bounce around from one to another at the first sign of trouble)

No one except the Lord Jesus experienced such dramatic highs and lows in ministry than Paul and Barnabas – can you imagine the highs of traveling to many places, leading multitudes to the Lord, having the power of God to physically heal people, and even be thought of as a god so that people began to worship you... but then as you are trying to restrain people from worshipping you and assuring them you are just as normal/human as they - in the blink of an eye, agitators from the city you just left arrive and suddenly turn the crowds misguided amazement and urge to worship/sacrifice to mere men into a more misguided but just as equalled frenzy of anger to then stone and attempt to murder the very men they were seeking to worship moments before. Unbelievable turn around.

So also imagine the scene the absolute low of a crowd hurling rocks (probably not just small ones) at you with some force as to kill you, yet God miraculously allows you not only to survive after the vicious crowd left and your friends are surrounding you/looking down with grave concern/prayer, but then you also are strong enough to GO on the next day to the next city to keep on keepin on in preaching the gospel. Amazing highs and lows, ups and downs in ministry – my title today for our study of Acts 14:8-28 "the Ups and Downs of Ministry (extreme triumphs and trials of Paul and Barnabas at Lystra and Derbe).

Btw – the only more extreme turn about from a up/high in ministry to actual death – the lowest low – Is our Lord Jesus – remember the highs of him being worshipped and welcomed into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday? Riding on a donkey, people laying palm branches before him as they shouted "Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest? And yet just a couple days later the same city (maybe not the same people) was stirred up and agitated and turned against Jesus to the point they were screaming CRUCIFY CRUCIFY him and actually did kill/murder the very/one and only Son of God? Talk about an up to a down, and the greatest up and down of ministry possible. Which makes me thankful and comforted that Jesus understands me, is my perfect example in the triumphs and trials of ministry of how to persevere and stay focused on the ultimate goal of future glory. Remember that in our families and church families we must practice **Philippians 2:5-11, Colossians 3:12-17, Hebrews 13:17** because the Lord is worthy and this is what He wants/commands believers to do.

What do you think is the hardest part or challenge for anyone serving in church ministry (Elder or Deacon or Member ... whether full time, part time or volunteer)? Do you think Satan and Demons specifically target church leaders (what do you think they target or tempt the most (purity/righteousness/personal example, health, marriage, children, finances, discouragement/criticisms from other believers). How do you think Satan is currently targeting/tempting you, or how are you being discouraged from serving in our church? How can we overcome and all of use be fully utilized in using our spiritual gifts to build up, edify, and make our church as beautiful, excellent, and pleasing to the Lord Jesus as possible?

### III. Review: QUIZ about the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey

1. What were the main places Paul and Barnabus visited/traveled to on the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey? (see slide 9)
2. How long did it take Paul and Barnabas to complete the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey and approx. what dates? (see slide 9)
3. What is a brief summary of what happened at Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe? (see slide 10)
4. Is Galatia a city or an area? What cities were in the region of Galatia that Paul wrote the book of Galatians to? (see slides 11 & 12)
5. Who was likely converted during Paul's hard visit to Lystra/Derbe to become his protégé/son in the faith? (**Acts 16:1-2, 2 Tim. 3:10-17**)
6. From the pictures what nation/era dominate the ruins of this area and what modern nation & religion controls these cities today? (see slides 14-44)
7. What can the modern church learn from the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey? (see slide 45)
8. What were the 5 D's (main points last time about Iconium) Paul and Barnabus were unD\_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 14:1**), but many Jews were D\_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 14:2a**), they stirred up D\_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 14:2b**) against the missionaries, and the city was D\_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 14:3-4**) and the missionaries had to leave because of the extreme D\_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 14:5-6**) from both Jews and Gentiles.
9. But despite all this Paul and Barnabus PUSHED through the PUSHBACK and continued to P\_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel (**Acts 14:7**) out of genuine love/concern for others souls (**Romans 9:1-3, 10:1**) so that "a large number of people believe (**Acts 14:1**) and "made many disciples" (**Acts 14:21**)
10. God also continues to love the lost and desire A\_\_\_\_\_ people be saved ... do you? (**1 Tim. 2:1-6, 2 Pet. 3:9, Titus 2:10-14, Ez. 18:23, 1 Tim. 4:9-10**)

### IV. Main Points: (Acts 14:8-28)

1. **A Great Miracle – a man lame from birth is miraculously HEALED! (Acts 14:8-10)**
  - a. At Lystra (**Acts 14, 6,8,21, 16:1,2, 2 Tim. 3:11**)
  - b. Healing of man lame from his mother's womb (reminds me of **John 9:1-5** /Jesus heals man blind since birth)
  - c. The Lame man had **FAITH** to be made well (**Mt. 9:22, Mark 5:34, 10:52, Luke 8:48, 17:19, 18:42**) (πίστις pistis: faith, faithfulness)
  - d. The Apostles say with loud voice "Stand up on your feet!" (**John 5:8** – Get up and walk!)
2. **A Great Reaction (but misinformed/misguided by false religion) to the Miracle** (the gods have come down to us) (**Acts 14:11-13**)
  - a. The misguided Crowd – "the gods have become like men and have come down to us"
  - b. Calling them Zeus and Hermes ... offer sacrifice with the crowds - Take about a sudden turn about – they go from calling Paul - Hermes and Barabbas - Zeus – and the priest of a nearby temple to Zeus coming with people to offer sacrifices (garlands and oxen) to Paul and Barnabas (i.e. worshipping them) to in a short time totally flipping to try to kill them. Take about radical swings (ups & downs) in ministry.
  - c. What's wrong with Greek mythology – EVERYTHING
    - i. Polytheism – MANY GODS
    - ii. Feminization of God
    - iii. Sexualization of God (tempting Gods)
    - iv. Imperfection of God (sinning Gods)
    - v. Warring God (injustice of Gods)

Overall – false religion is an affront to God's eternity, sovereignty, holiness, trinity, and omni's (omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence)

3. **A Great Truth - All glory/worship to God – none to man (Acts 14:14-15)**
  - a. Tore their robes – we are also men – same as you. We must Worship God alone – not angels, not objects/icons/idols, not mere men (**Mt. 4:10, Lk. 4:8, Acts 10:25-26, 12:21-23, 14:11-13, Rev. 19:10, 22:9**), we must worship in spirit and TRUTH (**John 4:24**), btw Jesus received worship because He IS fully God (**Mt. 2:11, 14:33, 21:9, 28:9, 28:17, Luke 24:52, John 9:38**)
  - b. Gospel – turn from these vain things (Greek mythology - Zeus and Hermes) (turn/repent to serve/worship a living God (who made heaven, earth, sea, all that is in them) (**Exodus 20:11, Psalm 146:6**)
4. **A Great Mystery – why God allows and uses sin (but does not want/will/plan/ordain sin) (Acts 14:16-20)**
  - a. Permitted (ἐάω eao): to let alone, leave) God allowed all nations to go their own ways – God permits/allows people and nations to sin – but never plans sins, wills sin, or ordains sin – He is not the author of evil (Satan is – Read **Ezek. 28:15, Hab. 1:13, Jer. 19:3-5**)
  - b. **God plans FOR sin...He does not plan sin.** God relationship to sin is holy/set apart - **Habakkuk 1:12-13, Jeremiah 19:5, James 1:13**, God is holy righteous and absolutely perfect - **Revelation 4:8/Isaiah 6:3, Dt. 32:4, 2 Sam. 22:31, Ps. 18:30, Mt. 5:48**). God would never wish, will, or want rebellion against Himself (definition of sin, so very dangerous doctrine that asserts God plans sin – He allows, He uses, He overcomes, He foresees but in no way is the author of sin as that is blasphemous because it affronts God's absolute perfection, goodness, and holiness.
  - c. **gotquestions.org** Did God create evil? Why does God allow evil? Does God sometimes use evil to accomplish His plans? Is it true that God cannot look upon sin?
5. **A Great Salvation (physical rescue/resuscitation) (Acts 14:18-22)**

- a. Paul bounces back (likely miraculously sustained even raised from the dead in order to fulfill His God given mission) (see also a list of Paul's miraculous survival rate – 2 Cor. 11:25-28)
- b. Acts 14:22 "Through many tribulations we must enter the Kingdom of God"
- c. 2 Tim. 3:12 "And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

**6. A Great HARVEST of Souls (Acts 14:23-26)**

- a. Preached the gospel, Made many disciples - They persevered all of this till they reached their goal – making many disciples in new areas.
- b. Returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. Paul was fearless, fully trusting and confidence in God to protect Him and use Him no matter what. - Talk about boldness how many of you would return and pass through the place you just got almost stoned to death and mistreated?
- c. Through many tribulations we must enter the Kingdom of God - His message as he passed through was inspiring to these new Christians and should also be inspiring to us
- d. Appointed elders for them in every church, Prayed with Fasting, Commended them in the Lord to whom they had believed. - These new churches had a critical need – Biblically qualified and faithful leader

**7. A Great Example of Discipleship and Encouraging Missionary Report (Paul's home church – Antioch Syria) (Acts 14:24-28)**


- a. Passed through Pisidia, Pamphylia, Perga, Attalia - They preach, speak the word (instruct/encourage) the believers in each city that they pass back through (missionaries often need rest, encouragement, refitting during furloughs).
- b. Sailed to Antioch - Return to their home church – where they were commended/commissioned to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished (Each of the 3 missionary journeys begin and end at Antioch, Syria)
- c. Missionary report – gather the church together – report all the things that **God had done** with/through them. (A full report will also be given at the Jerusalem counsel – Acts 15)
- d. **Open door of faith to the Gentiles** (why Paul is the Apostle to the Gentiles - Rom. 1:5, 11:13, Gal. 2:8, 1 Tim. 2:7)
- e. **TIME** – spent a long time with the disciples. It takes time to disciple new believers to basic maturity (Eph. 4)

### The TBC Discipleship Plan

4 Year Adult S.S. Curriculum/1-to-1 Discipleship (7 Classes)

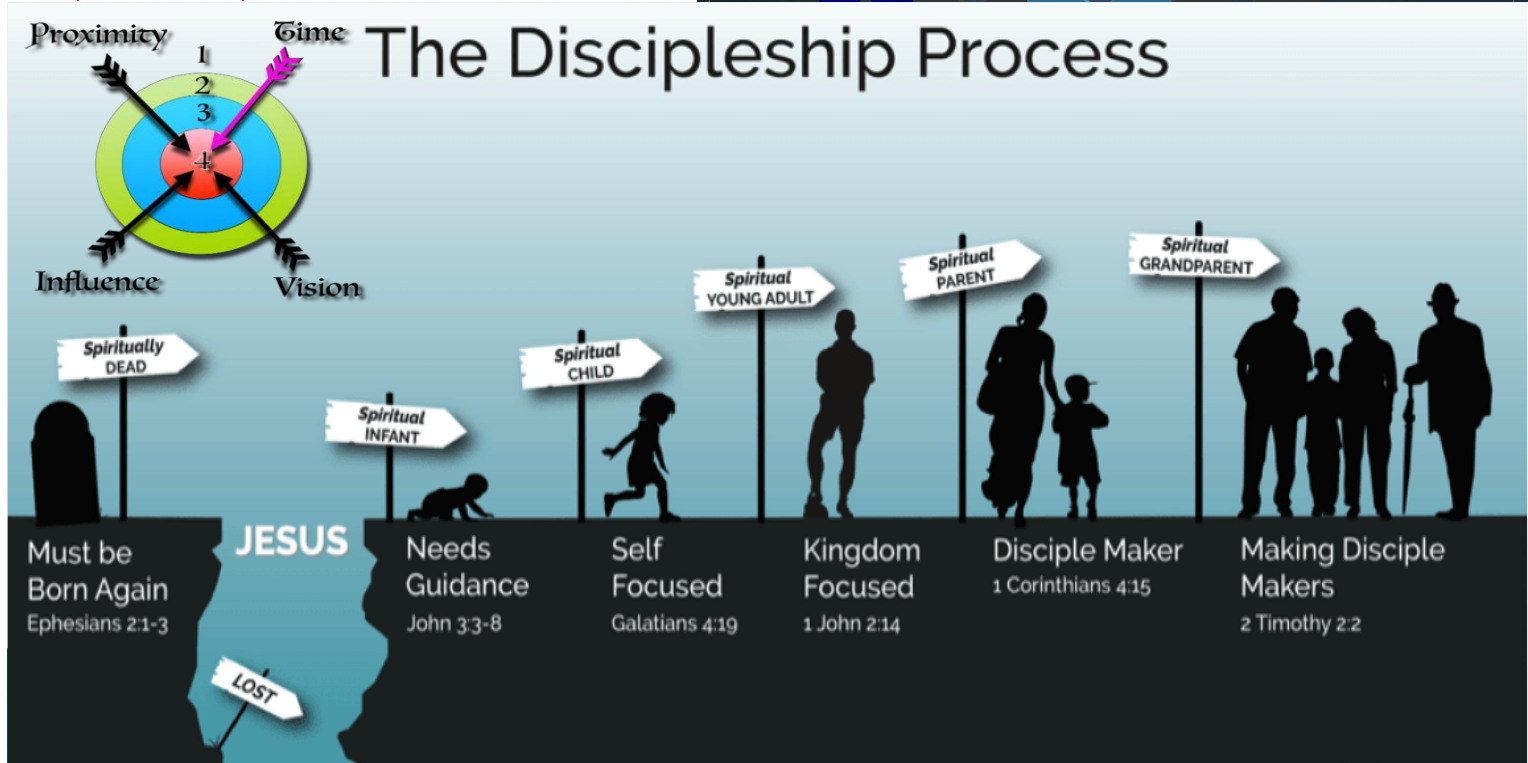
**1 Timothy 4:15** Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your progress will be evident to all.

1. **Basics Class** (Investigative Bible Study/overview of Biblical Christianity)
2. **Foundations Class** (Grey Folder – Starting Spiritual Disciplines)
3. **Fundamentals of the Faith Class** (Mini Systematic Theology - Key Doctrines)
4. **Evangelism Class** (How to Share Your Faith using the Law the way Jesus did)
5. **New Testament Read Through** (highlighting Jesus' commands and promises)
6. **Old Testament Read Through Class** (Background of Creation/Israel/Covenants leading to the New Covenant)
7. **Systematic Theology Class** (Organizing and understanding doctrine in 12 major categories)



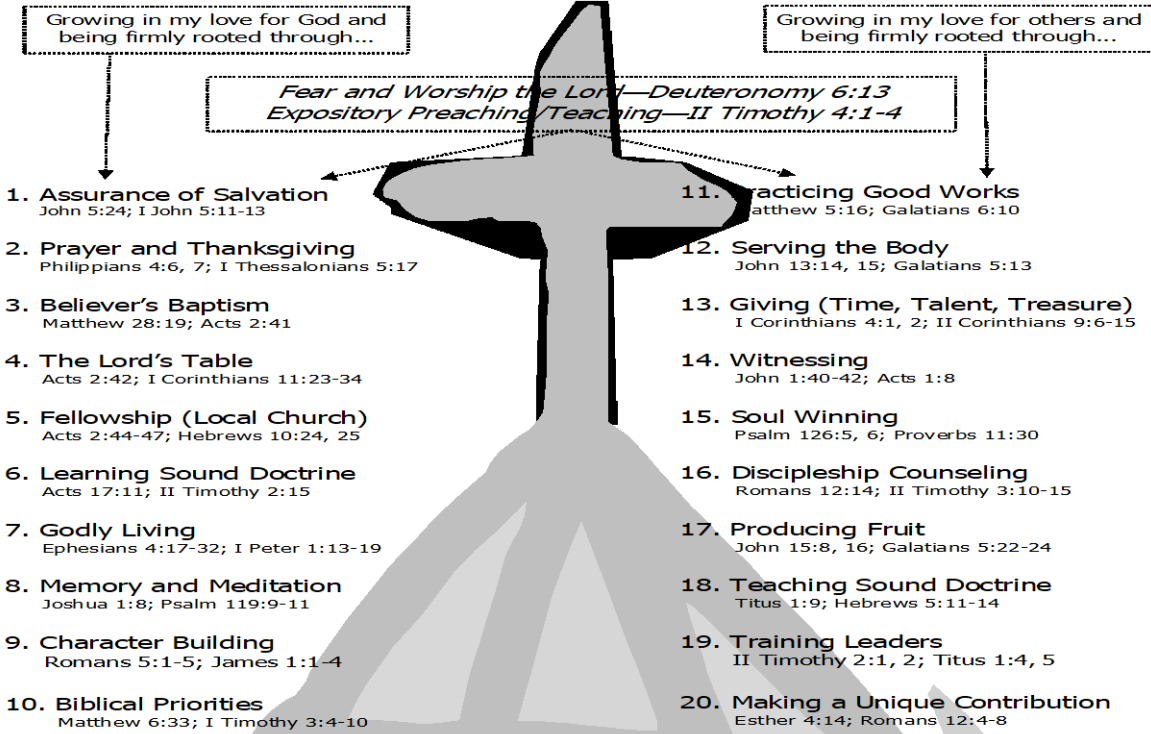
**V. Application: Have you been discipled 1 to 1?**

Are you discipling anyone 1 to 1 / passing the spiritual torch to the next generation? **Colossians 4:2-6, Acts 16:1-3, 2 Tim. 3:10-11**



# Profile of a Disciplemaker

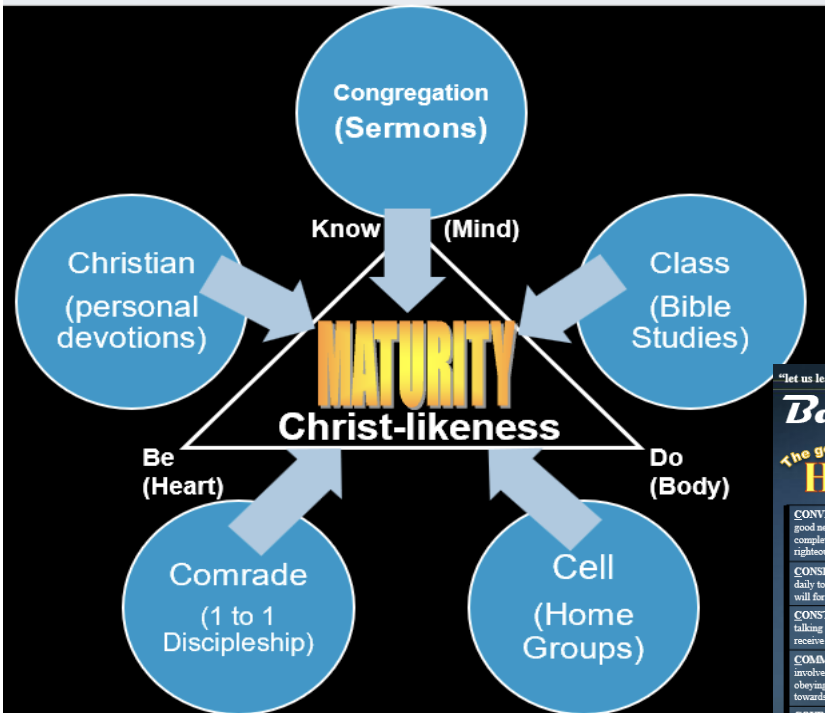
Matthew 22:37-39; Colossians 2:6, 7



**THE GREAT COMMISSION**

*Matthew 28:18-20—And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

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What is your discipleship PLAN for yourself, your spouse, your children?  
 What are you currently doing to GROW, PROGRESS, ADVANCE in MATURITY (Christ-likeness)? **1 Timothy 4:15**  
 Are you moving from your point A spiritually to your point B?  
 Are you willing to ask the TBC Elders and START today?

**Basic Discipleship**

*"Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity" Hebrews 6:1*

Colossians 1:28 "We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ."

**Habits of Godliness (7 C's)**

**The Contagious Christian**

**Prayer**

**Witnessing**

**Christ fellowship**

**Word**

**IN ACTION**

**The Goal: Maturity**

*"...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." Ephesians 4:12-13*

**CONVERTED** by the GOSPEL – Believing the good news of Jesus Christ that he provides complete FORGIVENESS and perfect righteousness to ALL who receive Him as LORD

**CONSISTENT** in the WORD – Investing time daily to read and understand God's blue print and will for our lives so that we can know the TRUTH

**CONSTANT** in PRAYER – Interacting and talking with God on a regular basis so that we can receive His POWER and be faithful and fruitful

**COMMITTED** to FELLOWSHIP – Becoming involved in a Bible believing, teaching, and obeying church so that believers are equipped towards MATURITY (to be like Christ)

**COURAGEOUS** in WITNESSING – Obeying Christ's command to GO make disciples by sharing the message of the gospel and showing the LOVE of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet

**CONTINUOUS** in WORSHIP – Honoring the Lord and giving Him praise and GLORY in everything we do and say

**CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN** – Seeing others need, baptized, and growing in their walk with Christ as we pass the torch of truth to others through EVANGELISM and DISCIPLESHIP

# TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



## FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO...

### LOVE GOD SUPREMEPLY

**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 14:8-28

8 At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. 9 This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well, 10 said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk. 11 When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us."



# Acts 14:8-28

12 And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out 15 and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, WHO MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM.



# Acts 14:8-28

16 "In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; 17 and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." 18 Even saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. 19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. 20 But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe.





# Acts 14:8-28

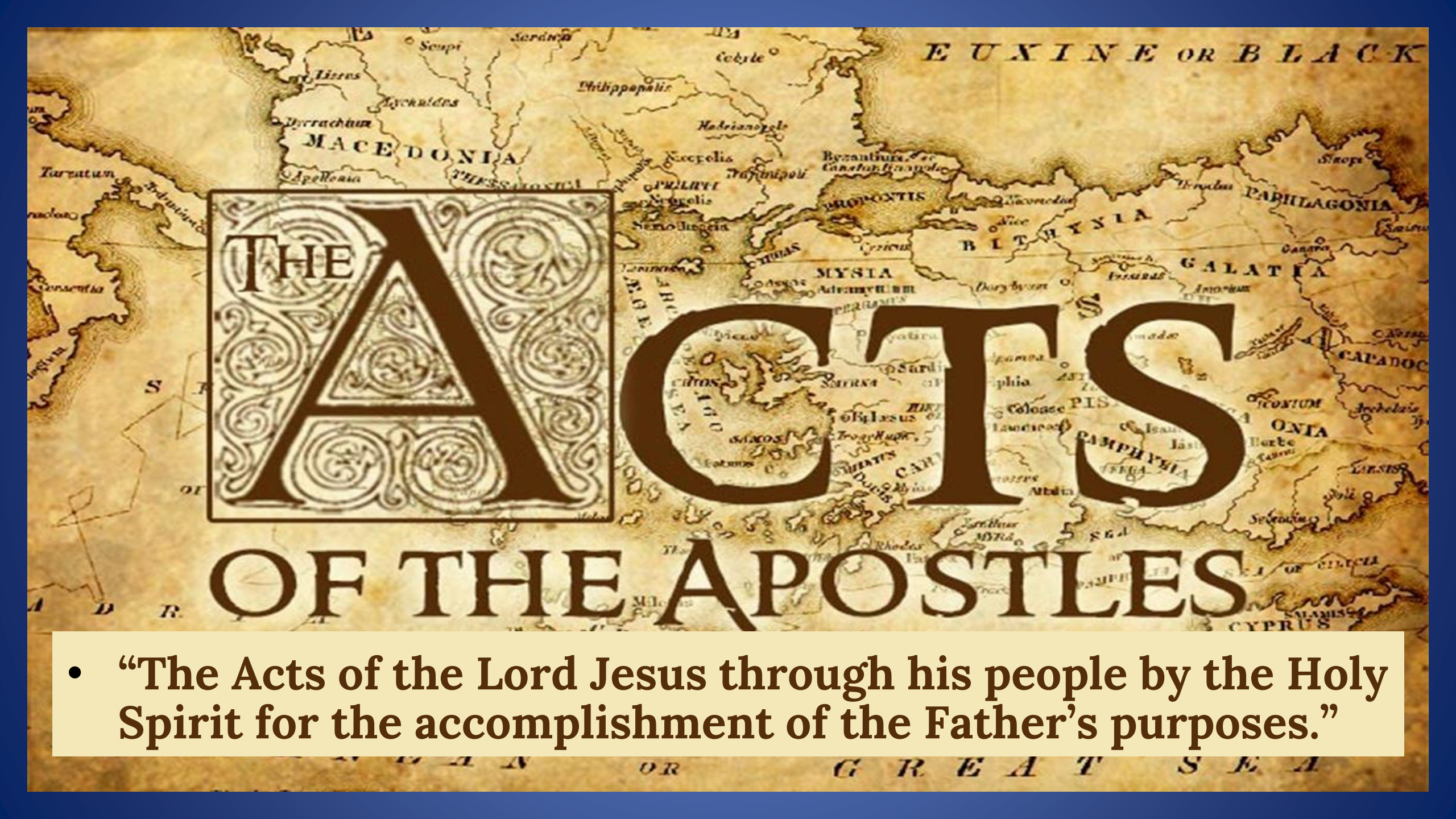
21 After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." 23 When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.



# Acts 14:8-28

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25 When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. 26 From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished. 27 When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they spent a long time with the disciples.





**THE ACTS**  
OF THE APOSTLES

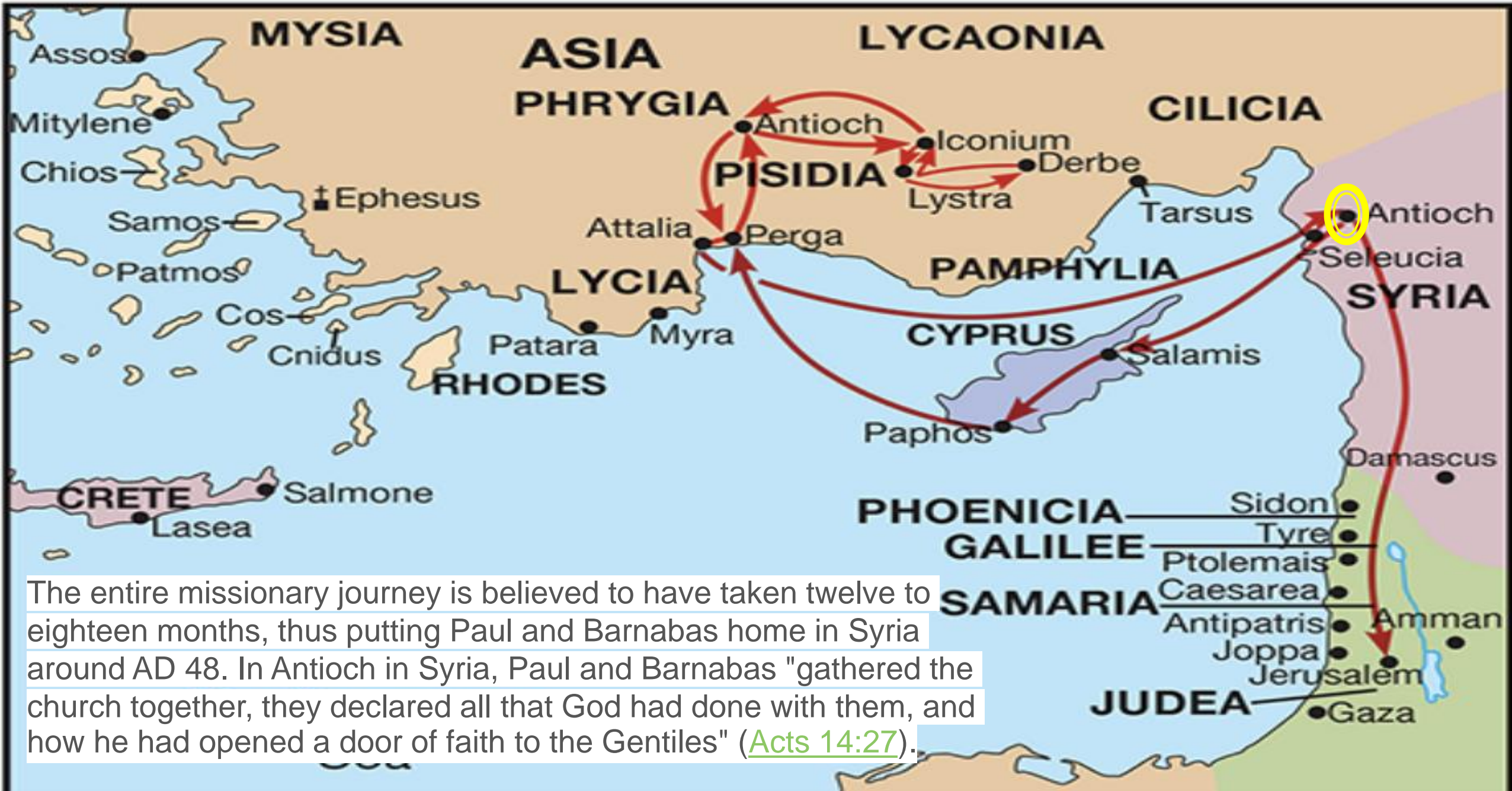
- “The Acts of the Lord Jesus through His people by the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the Father’s purposes.”



# THE MINISTRY ROLLER COASTER

STAYING FAITHFUL THROUGH THE  
UPS AND DOWNS OF GOD'S WORK

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



The entire missionary journey is believed to have taken twelve to eighteen months, thus putting Paul and Barnabas home in Syria around AD 48. In Antioch in Syria, Paul and Barnabas "gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles" ([Acts 14:27](#)).

# WHAT HAPPENED ON PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY?

5. **Iconium:** More plots force them to flee.

6. **Lystra:** When Paul heals a lame man, the townspeople think he and Barnabas are Greek gods. Jews from Antioch stir up the crowd, and Paul is stoned and left for dead. But Paul survives and goes back into the city.

7. **Derbe:** Paul preaches and many disciples are added to the church.

1. **Antioch in Syria:** The Holy Spirit sets apart Paul and Barnabas to be missionaries. John Mark goes along as their helper.

2. **Sailed from Seleucia to Salamis and Paphos (on Cyprus):** Paul confronts a sorcerer named Elymas and blinds him. (From this point the Bible calls him Paul, rather than Saul.)

3. **Perga in Pamphylia:** John Mark deserts the group and returns to Jerusalem.

4. **Antioch of Pisidia:** Paul preaches his longest recorded sermon, and many respond. Jewish leaders drive them out of the city. The Lord calls Paul to focus his ministry on Gentiles. The Gentiles are glad and many become believers.

5. **Iconium:** More plots force them to flee.

6. **Lystra:** When Paul heals a lame man, the townspeople think he and Barnabas are Greek gods. Jews from Antioch stir up the crowd, and Paul is stoned and left for dead. But Paul survives and goes back into the city.

7. **Derbe:** Paul preaches and many disciples are added to the church.

8. **Lystra, Iconium, Antioch of Pisidia, Pamphylia, Perga, Attalia:** On the return trip, Paul and Barnabas appoint elders in the churches they had planted.

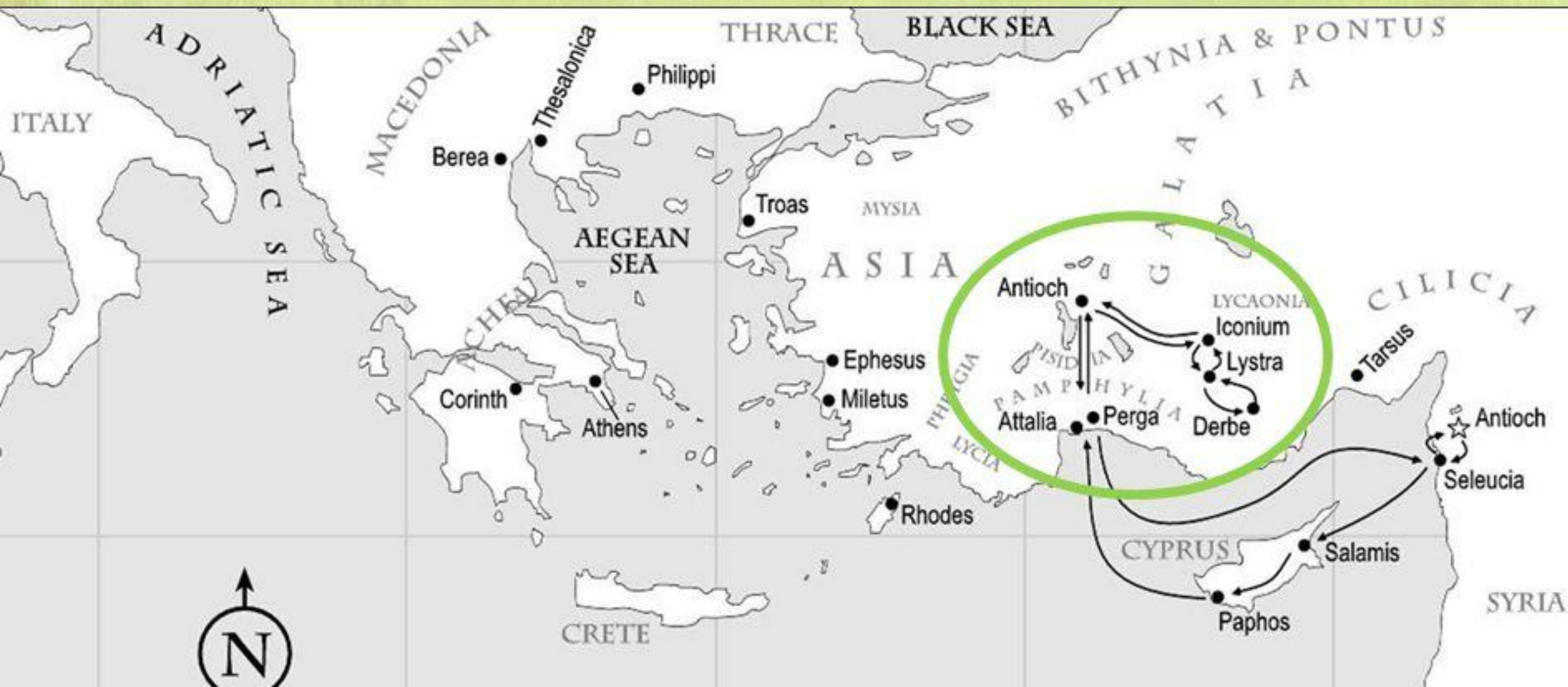
9. **Antioch (Syria):** Paul remains there for a while, reporting what God had done. (Possibly writes Galatians from here.)

10. **Jerusalem, via Phoenicia and Samaria:** In AD 49, Paul and Barnabas report to the leaders of the Jerusalem church. This meeting is known as the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:1–35).

# New Testament Churches



# The Churches of Galatia



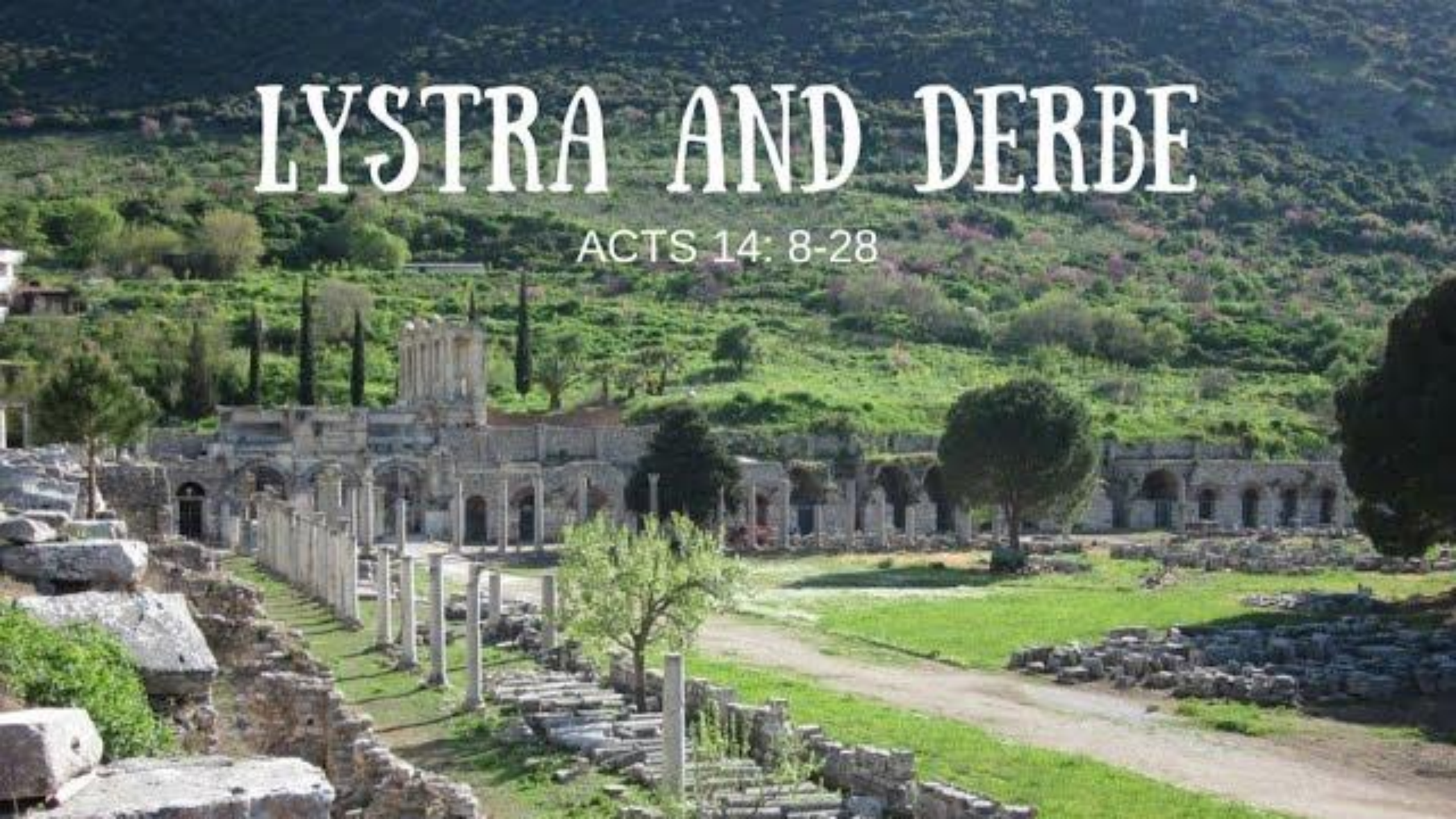


# Timothy most likely from Lystra/Derbe area and saved during the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey

- ▶ **Acts 16:1-2** And he came also to Derbe and to Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek, <sup>2</sup> and he was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium.
- ▶ **2 Timothy 3:10-17** <sup>10</sup> But you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, <sup>11</sup> persecutions, *and* sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium *and* at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord delivered me! <sup>12</sup> And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. <sup>13</sup> But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*; <sup>15</sup> and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

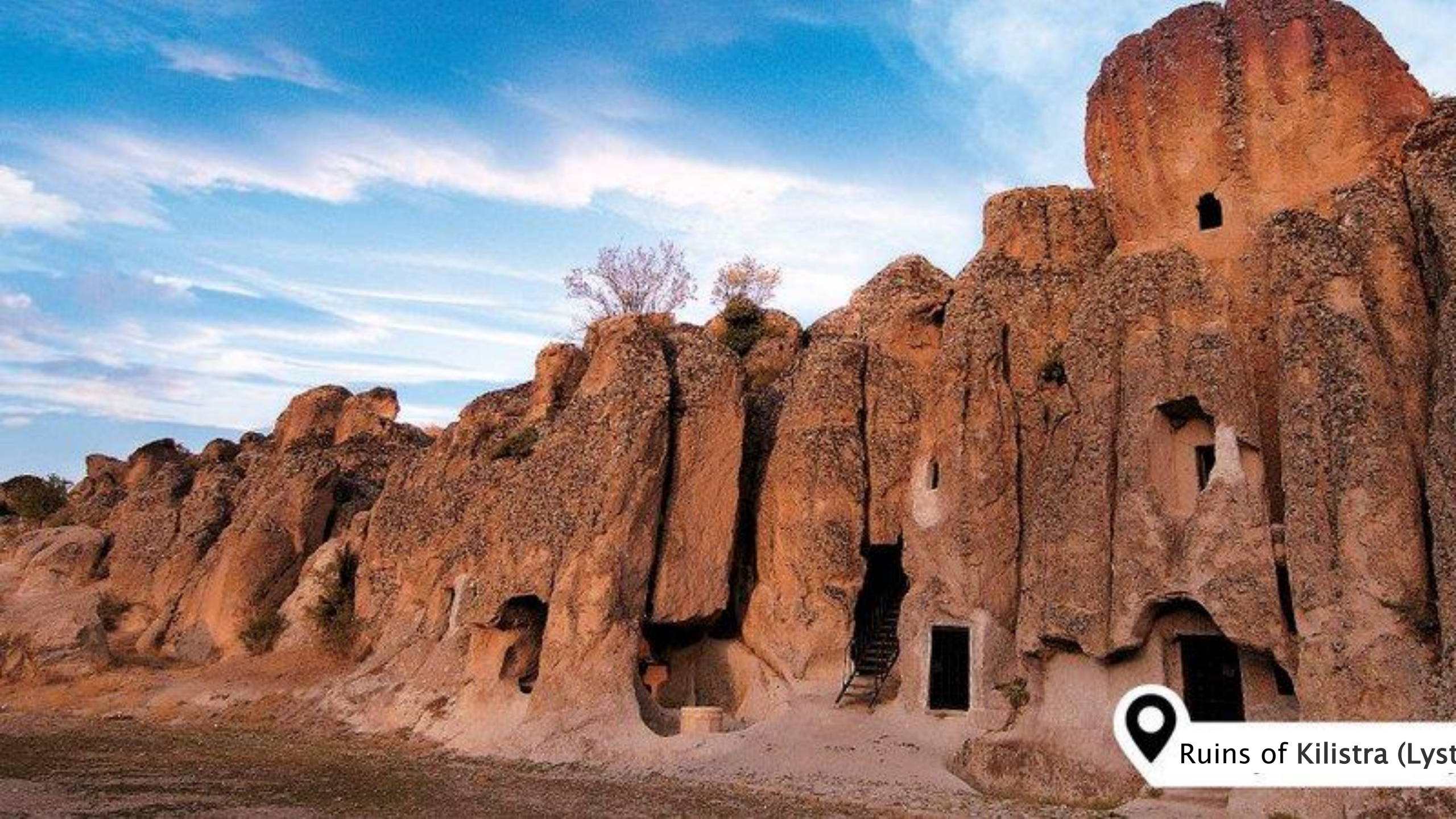
# LYSTRA AND DERBE

ACTS 14: 8-28





ST PAUL IN HATUNSARAY (LYSTRA) AND DERBE



Ruins of Kilistra (Lyst)

















Rock-cut church with domed-cross plan in Kilistra in Lycaonia Province (modern Gökyurt, Konya)





















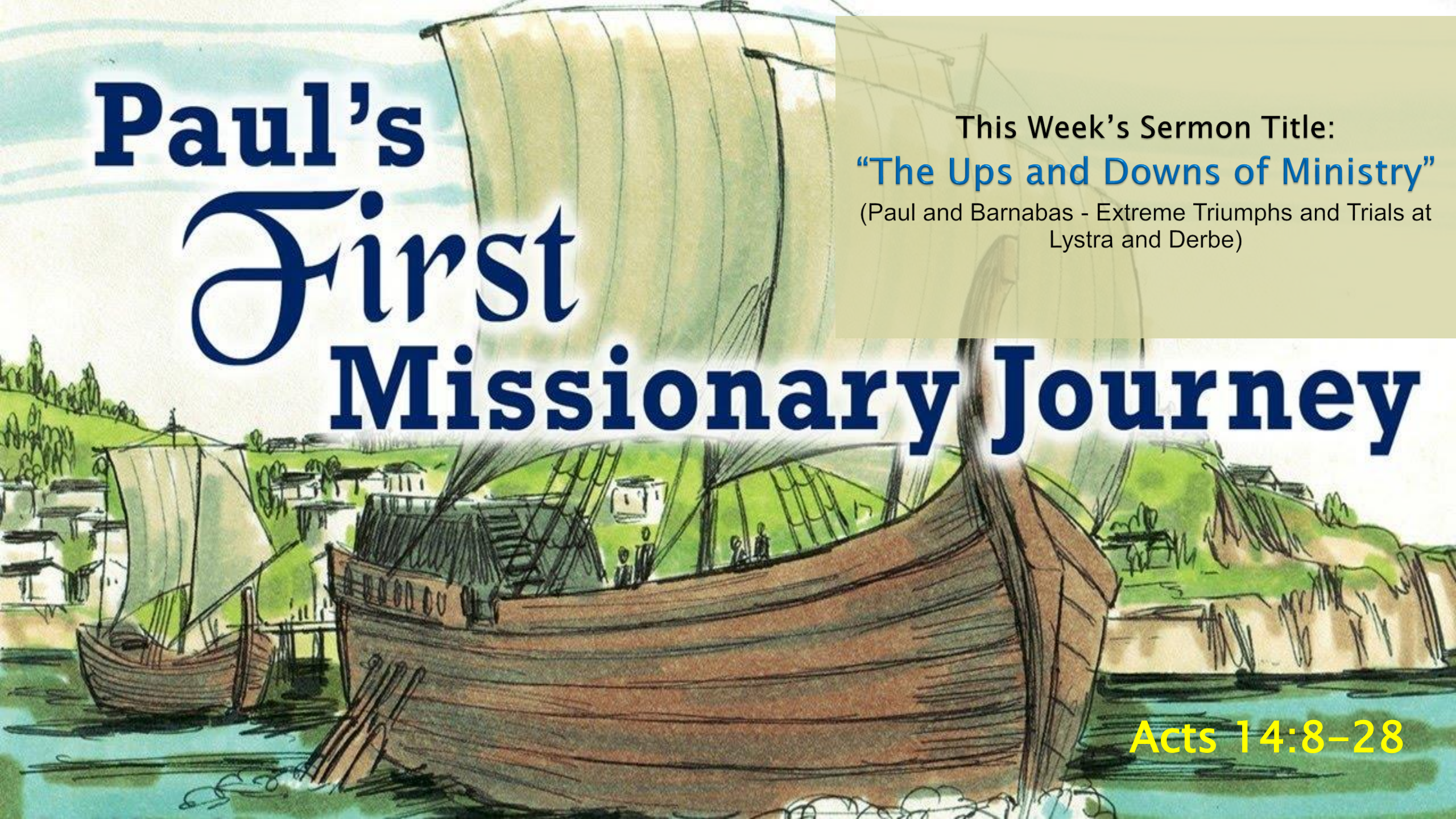
*E. Nathaniel Martin*



*E. Nathaniel Martin*







# Paul's First Missionary Journey

This Week's Sermon Title:  
**"The Ups and Downs of Ministry"**  
(Paul and Barnabas - Extreme Triumphs and Trials at  
Lystra and Derbe)

**Acts 14:8-28**

# Acts 14:5 Converts and Conflict in Iconium (5 D's—verses 14:1–5)

1. **UnDeterred** (indominable spirit) Apostles (never quit, never give up, never surrender!) “They spoke in a way that a large number of people believed” (Lit. “they spoke thus so that believed Jews and also Gentiles many multitudes”) (Acts 19:8, 28:23–24, 2 Cor. 5:11)
2. **Disbelieving** – the Jews who disbelieved **STIRRED** up (ἐπεγείρω *epegeiro*: to rouse up, excite) the minds (Lit. souls – ψυχή *psuche*: breath, the soul) of the Gentiles to be embittered (κακώω *kakoo*: to ill-treat, harm, mistreat) against the brethren (Acts 13:50, 14:2)
  - ▶ **Discord** towards brethren – embittered against the brethren (causing/spreading bitterness/ill-treatment (κακώω *kakoo* to ill-treat) the usual target is church leadership by casting doubt, suspicion/scrutiny, questioning motives, qualifications, comparisons, slander, fault-finding, diversion, critical spirit, anti-authoritarian, unteachableness) (Prov. 6:14, 6:16–19, 12:17, 19:5–9, Ps. 27:12, Eph. 4:25, Rom. 16:17–18, James 4:11, Titus 3:9–11, 1 Peter 2:11, Matthew 18:15–20, 1 Tim. 5:19–20, Col. 3:12–17)
1. **Divided** city – people of the city were divided (σχίζω *schizo*: to cleave, split) (Mt 12:25, Mk. 3:24, Lk 11:17, \*12:51–53, Acts 14:4, 23:7)
2. **Danger** – seeking to mistreat (ὕβριζω *hubrizo*: to run riot, to outrage, insult) and stone (λιθοβολέω *lithoboleo*: to pelt with stones, to stone them) the Apostles (overall Satan seeking to steal, kill, and destroy) (Mt. 21:35, Acts 5:26, 14:19, 2 Cor. 11:25, Heb. 11:37)



# Acts 14:6–7 – Pushing through the Pushback: Perseverance out of love for the lost (genuine concern for the eternal destiny of others)

**Continued to preach the gospel (Lit. there preaching good news they were)** in the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra, and Derbe) – Talk about undeterred – to keep going with the gospel and missionary work after someone tries to kill you twice – most might cut and run – but here they “continued to preach the gospel”

**Love of others souls** – That is love, perseverance, and plain old guts, courage, backbone, spine, and supernatural sustaining to carry on. But ultimately its love – agape – divine love that is selfless, sacrificial, unconditional and genuinely cares about the well-being of others – especially their eternal well-being, safety, prosperity, and ultimately peace with God.

**Romans 9:1–3** I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed, *separated* from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh... **Romans 10:1** Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for *their* salvation.

# God's desire and our desire for ALL people to be saved

- ▶ **1 Timothy 2:1-6** First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is good and acceptable in the sight of **God our Savior**, <sup>4</sup> **who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.** <sup>5</sup> For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony *given* at the proper time.
- ▶ **2 Peter 3:9** <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, **not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.**
- ▶ **Titus 2:10-14** but showing all good faith that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect. <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, **bringing salvation to all men**, <sup>12</sup> instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our **great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;** <sup>14</sup> **who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us** from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
- ▶ **Ezekiel 18:23** <sup>23</sup> "Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares the Lord God, "**rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?**"
- ▶ **1 Timothy 4:9-10** <sup>9</sup> It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance. <sup>10</sup> For it is for this **we labor and strive**, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is **the Savior of all men, especially of believers.**

# A Great Miracle – man lame from birth HEALED!

**Acts 14:8-10** <sup>8</sup> And at Lystra there was sitting a certain man, without strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. <sup>9</sup> This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze upon him, and had seen that he had faith to be made well, <sup>10</sup> said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and *began* to walk.

**At Lystra** (Acts 14, 6,8,21, 16:1,2, 2 Tim. 3:11)

**Healing of man lame from his mother's womb** (reminds me of John 9 /Jesus heals man blind since birth) Jn. 9:1–5 As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "*It was* neither *that* this man sinned, nor his parents; but *it was* so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup> "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world."

- ▶ **Lame man had FAITH to be made well** (Mt. 9:22, Mark 5:34, 10:52, Luke 8:48, 17:19, 18:42) (πίστις *pistis*: faith, faithfulness)

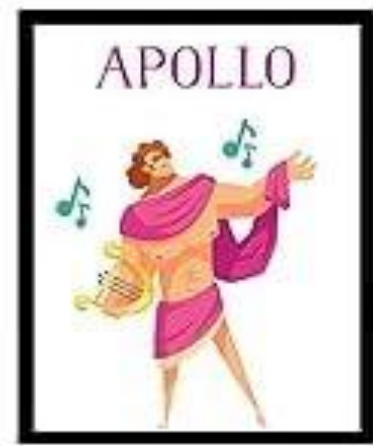
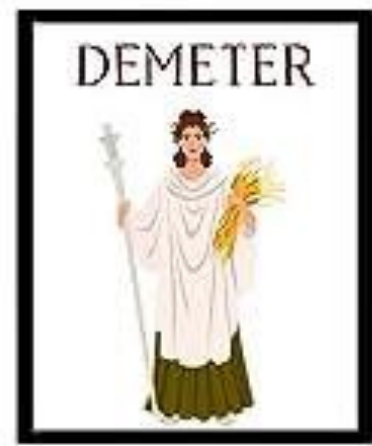
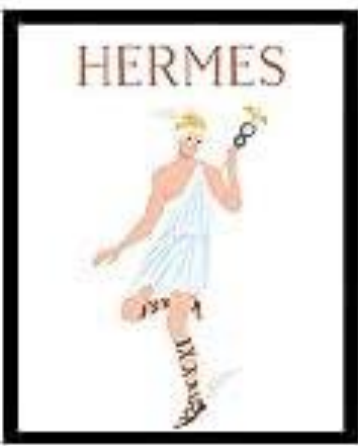
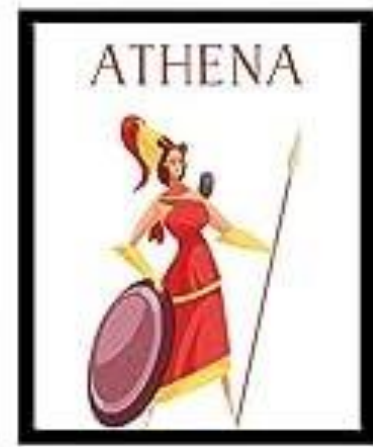
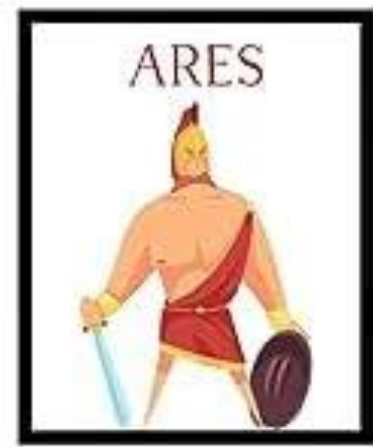
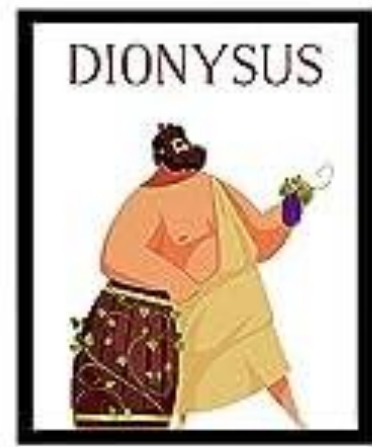
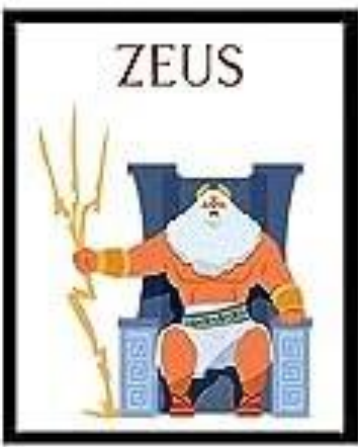
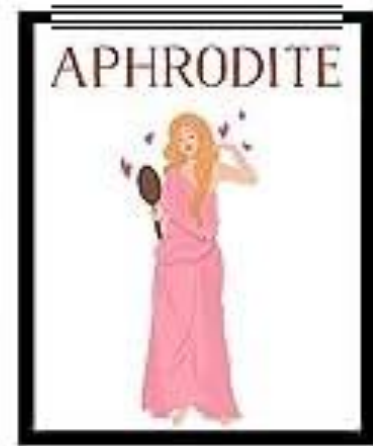
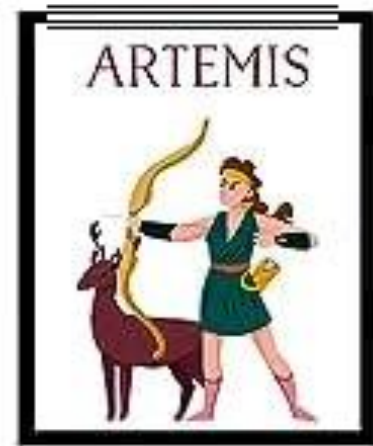
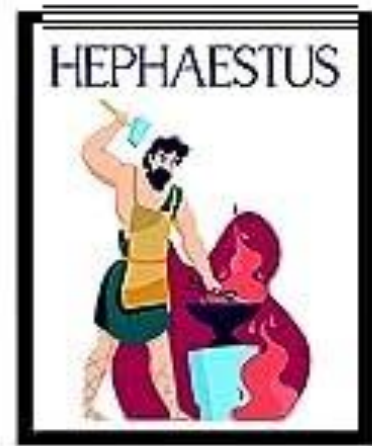
**Apostles with loud voice** "Stand up on your feet!" (John 5:8 – Get up and walk!)

# Reaction to the miracle (gods have come down to us)

**Acts 14:11–13** <sup>11</sup> And when the multitudes saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us." <sup>12</sup> And they *began* calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup> And the priest of Zeus, whose *temple* was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

**Crowd** – “the gods have become like men and have come down to us”

**Calling Zeus and Hermes ... offer sacrifice with the crowds** – Take about a sudden turn about – they go from calling Paul – Hermes and Barabbas – Zeus – and the priest of a nearby temple to Zeus coming with people to offer sacrifices (garlands and oxen) to Paul and Barnabas (i.e. worshipping them) to in a short time totally flipping to try to kill them. Take about radical swings (ups & downs) in ministry.



# All glory/worship to God – none to man

**Acts 14:14-17** <sup>14</sup> But when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out <sup>15</sup> and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you in order that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them. <sup>16</sup> "And in the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; <sup>17</sup> and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness."

**Tore their robes** – we are also men – same as you. We must Worship God alone – not angels, not objects/icons/idols, not mere men (**Mt. 4:10, Lk. 4:8, Acts 10:25–26, 12:21–23, 14:11–13, Rev. 19:10, 22:9**), we must worship in spirit and TRUTH (**John 4:24**), btw Jesus received worship because He IS fully God (**Mt. 2:11, 14:33, 21:9, 28:9, 28:17, Luke 24:52, John 9:38**)

**Gospel** – turn from these vain things (Greek mythology – Zeus and Hermes) (turn/repent to serve/worship a living God (who made heaven, earth, sea, all that is in them) (**Exodus 20:11, Psalm 146:6**))

# God allows (but does not want/will/plan/ordain sin)

- ▶ **Permitted** (ἐάω eao): to let alone, leave) **God allowed all nations to go their own ways** – God permits/allows people and nations to sin – but never plans sins, wills sin, or ordains sin – He is not the author of evil (Satan is – Ezek. 28:15 <sup>15</sup> "You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created UNTIL unrighteousness was found in you. ) Hab. 1:13 <sup>13</sup> *Your eyes are too pure to approve evil, And You can not look on wickedness with favor. Why do You look with favor On those who deal treacherously? Why are You silent when the wicked swallow up Those more righteous than they?* Jer. 19:3-5 'Hear the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, "Behold I am about to bring a calamity upon this place, at which the ears of everyone that hears of it will tingle. <sup>4</sup> "Because they have forsaken Me and have made this an alien place and have burned sacrifices in it to other gods, that neither they nor their forefathers nor the kings of Judah had ever known, and *because* they have filled this place with the blood of the innocent <sup>5</sup> and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal, a thing which I never commanded or spoke of, nor did it ever enter My mind;

God allows (but does not want/will/plan/ordain sin)

▶ **God plans FOR sin...He does not plan sin**

(God relationship to sin is holy/set apart - Habakkuk 1:12-13, Jeremiah 19:5, James 1:13, God is holy righteous and absolutely perfect - Revelation 4:8/Isaiah 6:3, Dt. 32:4, 2 Sam. 22:31, Ps. 18:30, Mt. 5:48). God would never wish, will, or want rebellion against Himself (definition of sin, so very dangerous doctrine that asserts God plans sin – He allows, He uses, He overcomes, He foresees but in no way is the author of sin as that is blasphemous because it affronts God's absolute perfection, goodness, and holiness.



# Got Questions (gotquestions.org)

**Did God create evil?**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/did-God-create-evil.html>

**Why does God allow evil?**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/God-allow-evil.html>

**Does God sometimes use evil to accomplish His plans (Hab. 1:5-11)?**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/does-God-use-evil.html>

**Is it true that God cannot look upon sin?**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/God-look-upon-sin.html>

# From one extreme to another (one minute worship the next stoning)

- ▶ **Acts 14:18-19** <sup>18</sup> And even saying these things, they with difficulty restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. <sup>19</sup> But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the multitudes, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.



# Paul bounces back (likely miraculously sustained even raised from the dead in order to fulfill His God given mission)

**Acts 14:20-22** <sup>20</sup> But while the disciples stood around him, he arose and entered the city. And the next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. <sup>21</sup> And after they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, <sup>22</sup> strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and *saying*, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

**2 Tim. 3:12** <sup>12</sup> And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

**2 Cor. 11:25-28** <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. <sup>26</sup> *I have been* on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from *my* countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; <sup>27</sup> *I have been* in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. <sup>28</sup> Apart from *such* external things, there is the daily pressure upon me *of* concern for all the churches.

## Acts 14:21–23 Perseverance and ministry on the way home

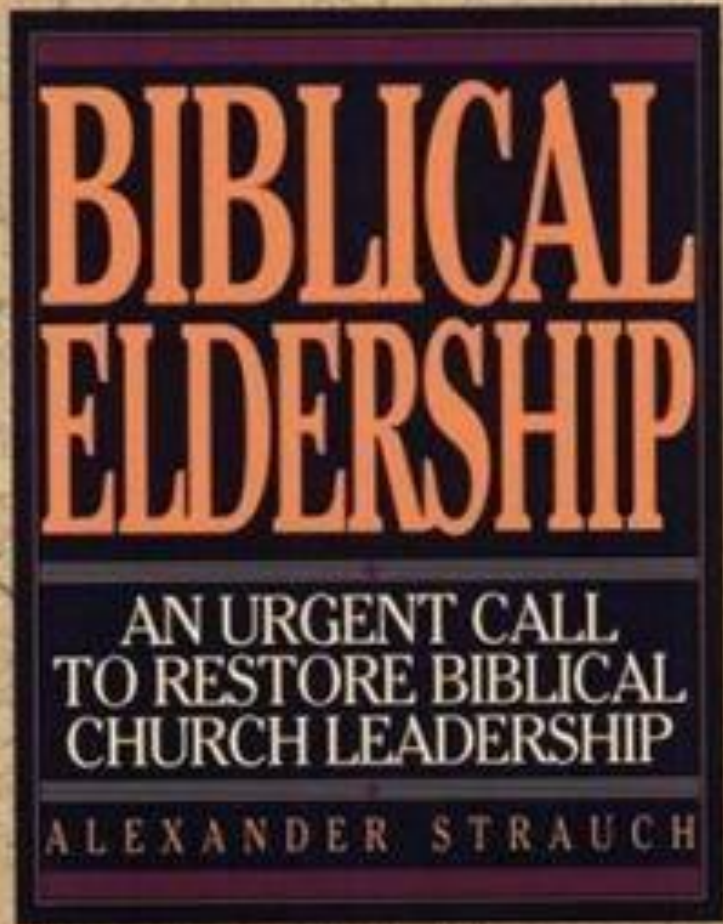
**Acts 14:23–26** <sup>23</sup> And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. <sup>24</sup> And they passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia. <sup>25</sup> And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia; <sup>26</sup> and from there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished.

**Preached the gospel, Made many disciples** – They persevered all of this till they reached their goal – making many disciples in new areas.

**Returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch.** Paul was fearless, fully trusting and confidence in God to protect Him and use Him no matter what. – Talk about boldness how many of you would return and pass through the place you just got almost stoned to death and mistreated?

**Through many tribulations we must enter the Kingdom of God** – His message as he passed through was inspiring to these new Christians and should also be inspiring to us

**Appointed elders for them in every church, Prayed with Fasting, Commended them in the Lord to whom they had believed.** – These new churches had a critical need – Biblically qualified and faithful leaders



REVISED  
AND EXPANDED

- ▶ Acts 14:23 <sup>23</sup> And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.
- ▶ Tit. 1:5-9 <sup>5</sup> For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, <sup>6</sup> *namely*, if **any man be above reproach**, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. <sup>7</sup> For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, <sup>8</sup> but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, <sup>9</sup> holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

# Acts 14:24–28 Travel back to the sending church to give Missions Update/Report

**Acts 14:27–28** <sup>27</sup> And when they had arrived and gathered the church together, they *began* to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. <sup>28</sup> And they spent a long time with the disciples.

**Passed through Pisidia, Pamphylia, Perga, Attalia** – They preach, speak the word (instruct/encourage) the believers in each city that they pass back through (missionaries often need rest, encouragement, refitting during furloughs).

**Sailed to Antioch** – Return to their home church – where they were commended/commissioned to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished (Each of the 3 missionary journeys begin and end at Antioch, Syria)

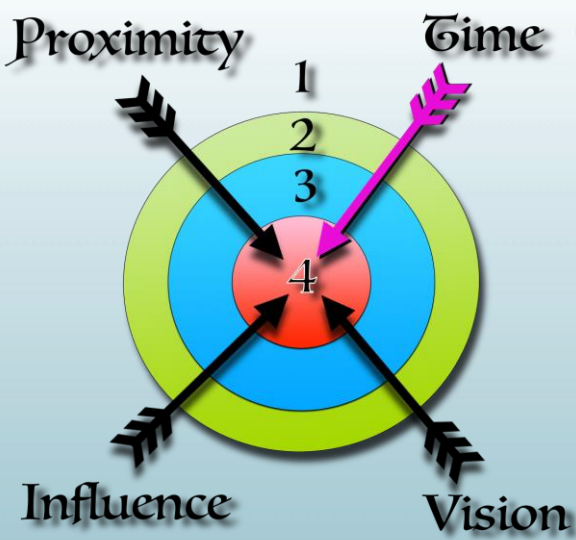
**Missionary report** – gather the church together – report all the things that God had done with/through them. (A full report will also be given at the Jerusalem counsel – Acts 15)

**Open door** of faith to the Gentiles (why Paul is the Apostle to the Gentiles – Rom. 1:5, 11:13, Gal. 2:8, 1 Tim. 2:7)

**TIME** – spent a long time with the disciples. It takes time to disciple new believers to basic maturity (Eph. 4)



# The Discipleship Process





# Profile of a Disciplemaker

Matthew 22:37-39; Colossians 2:6, 7

Growing in my love for God and  
being firmly rooted through...

Growing in my love for others and  
being firmly rooted through...

*Fear and Worship the Lord—Deuteronomy 6:13  
Expository Preaching/Teaching—II Timothy 4:1-4*

1. Assurance of Salvation  
John 5:24; I John 5:11-13

2. Prayer and Thanksgiving  
Philippians 4:6, 7; I Thessalonians 5:17

3. Believer's Baptism  
Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:41

4. The Lord's Table  
Acts 2:42; I Corinthians 11:23-34

5. Fellowship (Local Church)  
Acts 2:44-47; Hebrews 10:24, 25

6. Learning Sound Doctrine  
Acts 17:11; II Timothy 2:15

7. Godly Living  
Ephesians 4:17-32; I Peter 1:13-19

8. Memory and Meditation  
Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:9-11

9. Character Building  
Romans 5:1-5; James 1:1-4

10. Biblical Priorities  
Matthew 6:33; I Timothy 3:4-10

11. Practicing Good Works  
Matthew 5:16; Galatians 6:10

12. Serving the Body  
John 13:14, 15; Galatians 5:13

13. Giving (Time, Talent, Treasure)  
I Corinthians 4:1, 2; II Corinthians 9:6-15

14. Witnessing  
John 1:40-42; Acts 1:8

15. Soul Winning  
Psalm 126:5, 6; Proverbs 11:30

16. Discipleship Counseling  
Romans 12:14; II Timothy 3:10-15

17. Producing Fruit  
John 15:8, 16; Galatians 5:22-24

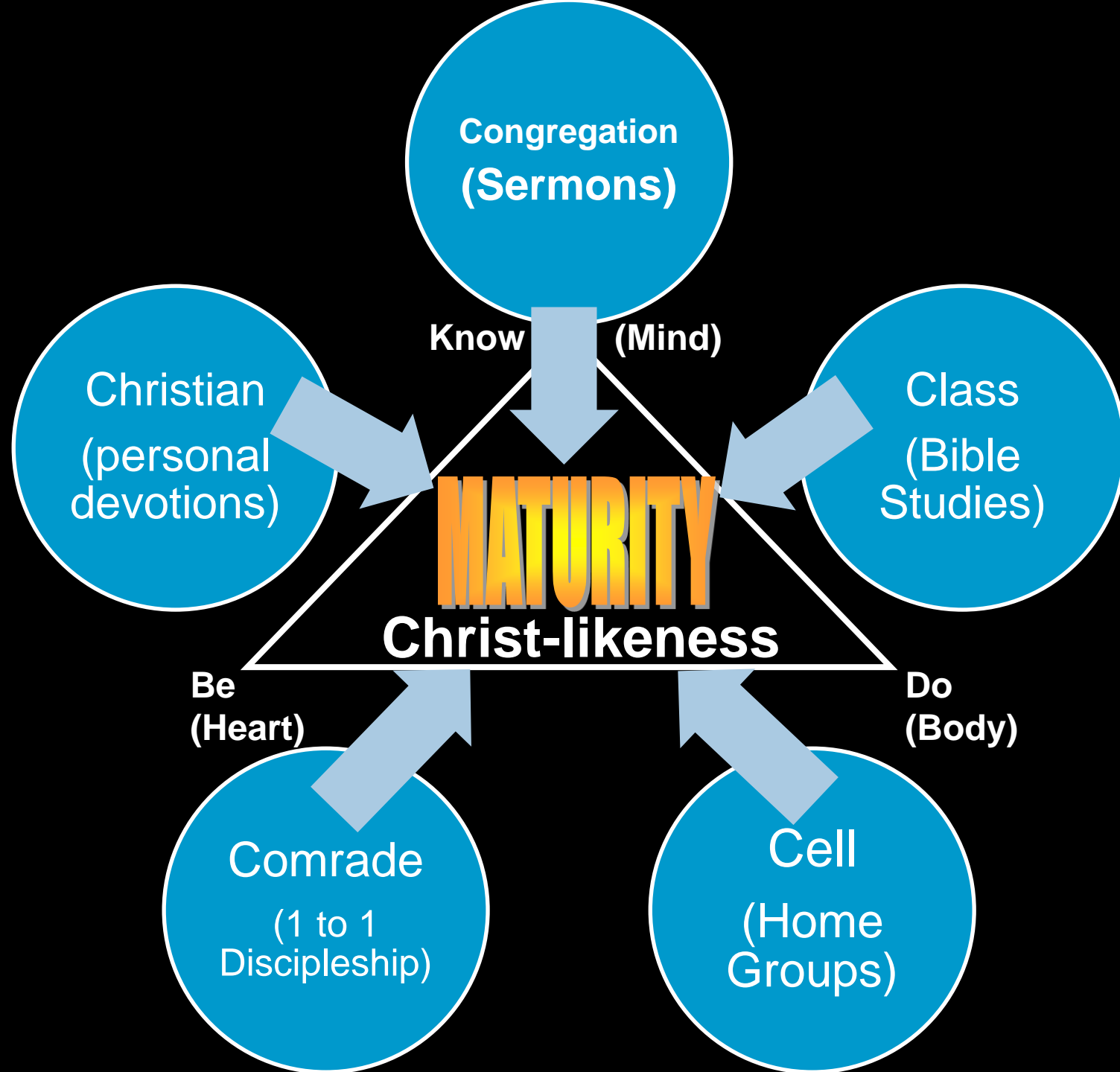
18. Teaching Sound Doctrine  
Titus 1:9; Hebrews 5:11-14

19. Training Leaders  
II Timothy 2:1, 2; Titus 1:4, 5

20. Making a Unique Contribution  
Esther 4:14; Romans 12:4-8

## THE GREAT COMMISSION

*Matthew 28:18-20—And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*



“let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to **maturity**” Hebrews 6:1

# Basic Discipleship

The goals & outcome of Discipleship:

## Habits of Godliness (7 C's)

**CONVERTED** by the GOSPEL – Believing the good news of Jesus Christ that he provides complete **FORGIVENESS** and perfect righteousness to ALL who receive Him as **LORD**

**CONSISTENT** in the **WORD** – Investing time daily to read and understand God’s blue print and will for our lives so that we can know the **TRUTH**

**CONSTANT** in **PRAYER** – Interacting and talking with God on a regular basis so that we can receive His **POWER** and be faithful and fruitful

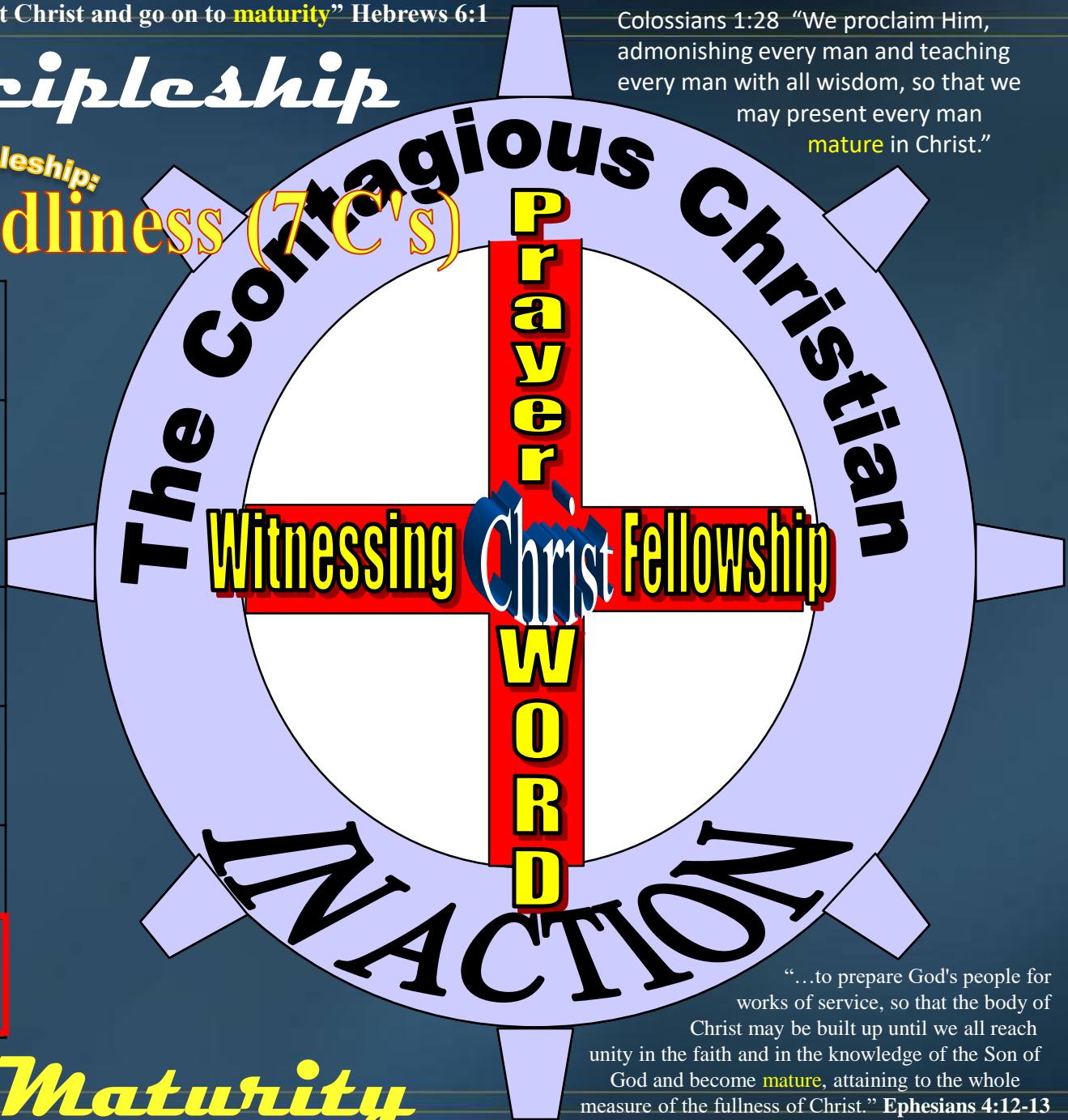
**COMMITTED** to **FELLOWSHIP** – Becoming involved in a Bible believing, teaching, and obeying church so that believer’s are equipped towards **MATURITY (to be like Christ)**

**COURAGEOUS** in **WITNESSING** – Obeying Christ’s command to GO make disciples by sharing the message of the gospel and showing the **LOVE** of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet

**CONTINUOUS** in **WORSHIP** – Honoring the Lord and giving Him praise and **GLORY** in everything we do and say

**CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN** – Seeing others saved, baptized, and growing in their walk with Christ as we pass the torch of truth to others through **EVANGELISM** and **DISCIPLESHIP**

Colossians 1:28 “We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man **mature** in Christ.”



“...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become **mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:12-13

# The Goal: **Maturity**

# The TBC Discipleship Plan

4 Year Adult S.S. Curriculum/1-to-1 Discipleship (7 Classes)

**1 Timothy 4:15** Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your progress will be evident to all.

1. **Basics Class** (Investigative Bible Study/overview of Biblical Christianity)
2. **Foundations Class** (Grey Folder – Starting Spiritual Disciplines)
3. **Fundamentals of the Faith Class** (Mini Systematic Theology - Key Doctrines)
4. **Evangelism Class** (How to Share Your Faith using the Law the way Jesus did)
5. **New Testament Read Through** (highlighting Jesus' commands and promises)
6. **Old Testament Read Through Class** (Background of Creation/Israel/Covenants leading to the New Covenant)
7. **Systematic Theology Class** (Organizing and understanding doctrine in 12 major categories)



# 1<sup>st</sup> Year: Basic Discipleship

*Understanding the Big Picture of Biblical Christianity and Practicing the Spiritual Disciplines of the Word, Prayer, Fellowship, and Witnessing*

Goal: Becoming Converted by the Gospel, Consistent in the Word, Constant in Prayer, Committed to Fellowship, Courageous in Witnessing, and overall becoming a Contagious Christian

## Conversion by Gospel

### 1. Basics Class (“The Big Picture of Christianity” - 7 C’s)

Lesson 1: Creator – is there a God and are we accountable to Him?

Lesson 2: Curse – is man basically “good” or “sinners” under God’s condemnation?

Lesson 3: Canon – is the Bible reliable and divine?

Lesson 4: Christ – is Jesus the Son of God, Lord of all, and Savior of the world?

Lesson 5: Commitment – is there something I must do to receive salvation?

Lesson 6: Church – is the church optional or essential for followers of Jesus Christ?

Lesson 7: Celestial City – is there a real heaven to be gained and hell to be feared?

“Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity” Hebrews 6:1

**Basic Discipleship**

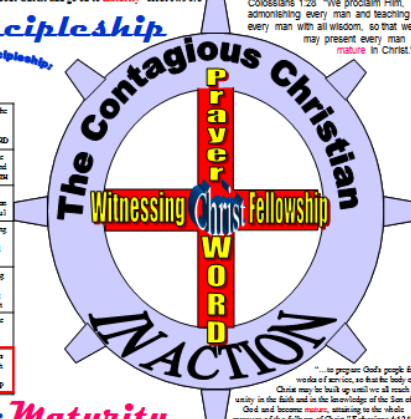
*The goals & outcome of Discipleship:*

**7 Habits of Contagious (7C)**

- CONVERTED by the GOSPEL** – Believing the good news of Jesus Christ that he provides complete FORGIVENESS and perfect righteousness to ALL who receive Him as LORD.
- CONSISTENT in the WORD** – Investing time daily to read and understand God’s Holy Spirit and will for our lives so that we can know the TRUTH.
- CONSTANT in PRAYER** – Investing and talking with God on a regular basis so that we can receive His POWER and be faithful and fruitful.
- COMMITTED to FELLOWSHIP** – Becoming involved in a Bible believing, teaching, and obeying church so that believers are equipped towards MATURITY (in the Kingdom).
- COURAGEOUS in WITNESSING** – Obeying Christ’s command to GO make disciples by sharing the message of the gospel and showing the LOVE of Jesus Christ to every one we meet.
- CONTINUOUS in WORSHIP** – Honoring the Lord and giving Him praise and GLORY in everything we do and say.
- CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN** – Being reborn, saved, baptized, and growing in their walk with Christ as we pass the torch of truth to others through the GOSPEL and DISCIPLESHIP.

Colossians 1:28 “We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.”

“...to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:12-13



**The Goal: Maturity**

## Assurance of Salvation/Spiritual Disciplines

### 2. Foundations Class (“Knowing God Personally” (Grey Folder from Multiplications Ministries)

Lesson 1: What is the Gospel

(5 P’s Tract, Bridge Tract, What is the Gospel PPT, 4 Critical Aspects of Salvation, 4 Important Lordship Questions Handouts)

Lesson 2: Baptism is An Important Step (Baptism PPT and Baptism is An Important Step Handout)

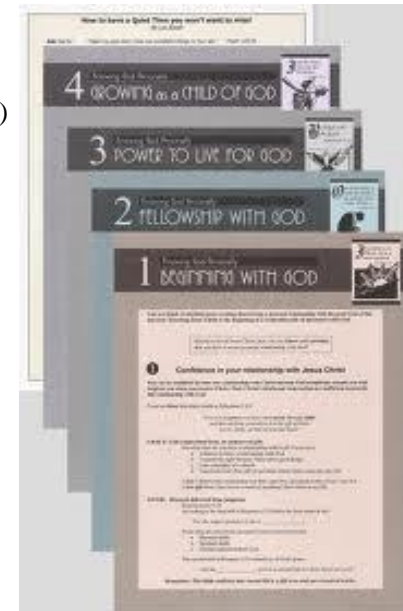
Lesson 3: Beginning with God (Assurance of Salvation Handout)

Lesson 4: How to Have a Quiet Time you don’t want to miss (Quiet Time suggestions handout)

Lesson 5: Fellowship with God

Lesson 6: Power to Live for God

Lesson 7: Growing As A Child of God



# 1<sup>st</sup> Year: Basic Discipleship (Continued)

*Understanding the Big Picture of Biblical Christianity and Practicing the Spiritual Disciplines of the Word, Prayer, Fellowship, and Witnessing*

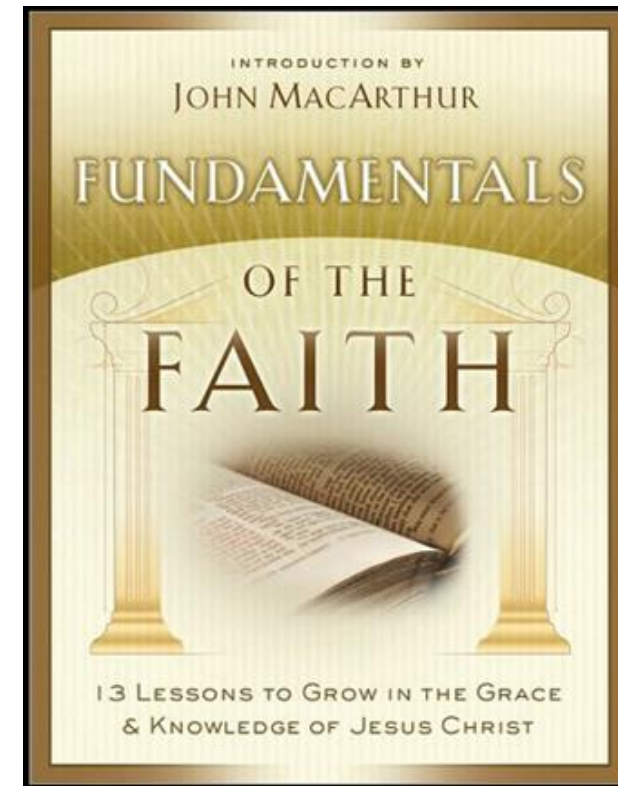
Goal: Becoming Converted by the Gospel, Consistent in the Word, Constant in Prayer, Committed to Fellowship, Courageous in Witnessing, and overall becoming a Contagious Christian

Word, Prayer, Fellowship, Witnessing

## 3. Fundamentals Class

(“**Fundamentals of the Faith**” by John MacArthur and Grace Community Church)

- Lesson 1: Introduction to the Bible
- Lesson 2: How to Know the Bible
- Lesson 3: God: His Character and Attributes
- Lesson 4: The Person of Jesus Christ
- Lesson 5: The Work of Christ
- Lesson 6: Salvation
- Lesson 7: The Person and Ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Lesson 8: Prayer and the Believer
- Lesson 9: The Church: Worship and Fellowship
- Lesson 10: Spiritual Gifts
- Lesson 11: Evangelism and the Believer
- Lesson 12: Obedience
- Lesson 13: God’s Will and Guidance



# 1<sup>st</sup> Year: Basic Discipleship (Continued)

*Understanding the Big Picture of Biblical Christianity and Practicing the Spiritual Disciplines of the Word, Prayer, Fellowship, and Witnessing*

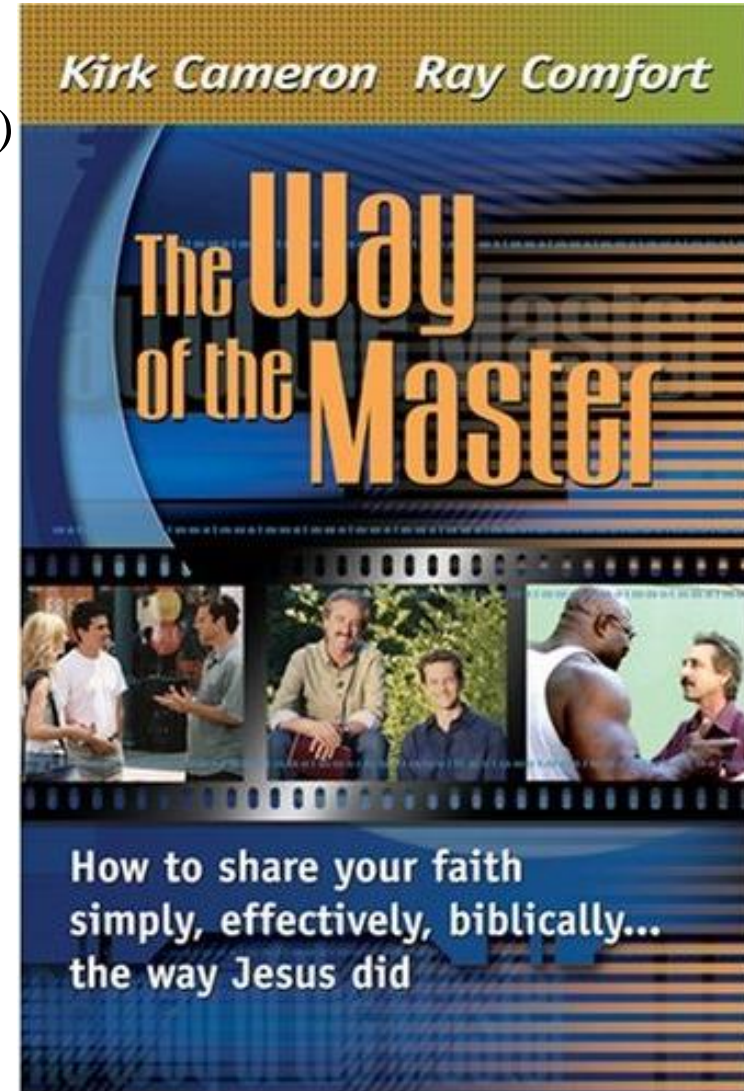
Goal: Becoming Converted by the Gospel, Consistent in the Word, Constant in Prayer, Committed to Fellowship, Courageous in Witnessing, and overall becoming a Contagious Christian

Word, Prayer, Fellowship, Witnessing

## 4. Evangelism Class

(“Way of the Master” by Ray Comfort and Kirk Cameron)

- Lesson 1: Cultivating Compassion for the Lost
- Lesson 2: Discovering Hell’s Best Kept Secret
- Lesson 3: Learning to Overcome Fear
- Lesson 4: Practicing What You Preach
- Lesson 5: Crafting the Message
- Lesson 6: Answering the Top Ten Questions
- Lesson 7: Exposing the Myth of the Modern Age
- Lesson 8: Spreading Your Wings



# 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year: Primary Discipleship

*Understanding the Big Picture of the Old and New Testaments*

## WORD

### 5. New Testament Read-Through Class:

The class time will summarize the major events and teachings of the life of Christ, the early church, and the New Testament books. Correspondingly, participants will be encouraged to read the New Testament through chronologically in 6 months



(1 chapters a day) and highlight the commands and promises they encounter in order to “see” God’s will and enabling for the Christian life. John 5:3 says, “For this is the love for God, that we obey His commandments.” But how can we show God we love him by obeying His commands if we don’t know what His commands are? Based on their approximate date of writing as well as their targeted audience(s) we will read through the Jewish Gospel/Letters first (Matthew, Galatians, James, Hebrews, Jude), Roman Gospel/Letters next (Mark, Romans, 1 Peter, 2 Peter), then the Gentile Gospel/Letters (Luke, Acts, Pauline Epistles) and finally John’s gospel/letters (John, 1-3 John, Revelation).

### 6. Old Testament Read-Through Class:

The class time will summarize the major events and teachings of the Old Testament: Creation, Fall, Flood, Babel, Abraham and the Patriarchs, Egypt and the Exodus, Wilderness Wanderings, Conquest of Canaan, Period of the Judges, Israel’s First Kings and United Kingdom, Kings of Israel and Judah during the Divided Kingdom, Decline, Defeat, and Exile by the Assyrians and Babylonians, Return and Rebuilding under the Medo-Persians, and 400 silent years until the time of the Christ.





# 4th Year: Advanced Discipleship

*Learning the Major Doctrines of the Bible by studying the 10 major categories of Systematic Theology (textbooks by Wayne Grudem & Norman Geisler)*

Goal: Gain a firm and deeper understanding of Biblical Doctrines in order to share, defend, & live out our faith

## 7. Systematic Theology

### Theology (Study of God)

- The existence, person, and plans of God

### Cosmology (Study of Creation)

- Creation and Evolution/The Bible and Science

### Angelology (Study of Angels and Demons)

- The Past, Present, and Future of good and evil angels

### Hamartiology (Study of Sin)

- The fall, curse, depravity, and judgment of sinful men

### Bibliology (Study of the Bible)

- The Bible's inspiration, formation, preservation, & translation

### Christology (Study of Jesus)

- The identity, life, death, resurrection, and return of Jesus Christ

### Soteriology (Study of Salvation)

- The Need, Source, Response, and Proof of Salvation

### Pneumatology (Study of the Holy Spirit)

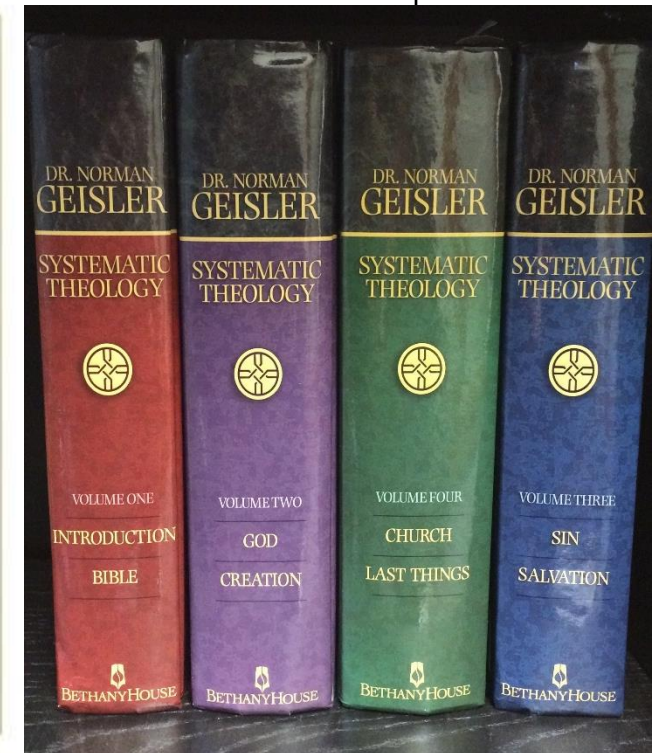
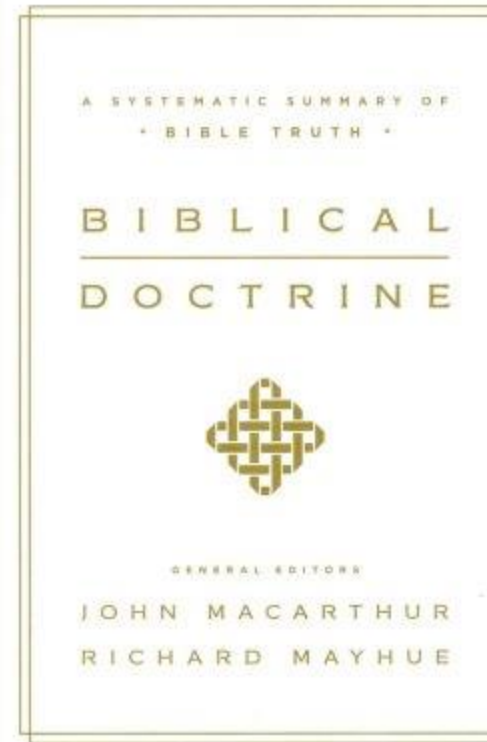
- The role and person of the Holy Spirit in Old Testament and New Testament, and with unbelievers and believers

### Ecclesiology (Study of the Church)

- The establishment, role, importance, and rapture of the Church

### Eschatology (Study of the End Times)

- The prophecies, fulfillments, and timeline of coming events described in Daniel, Revelation, and other prophetic books of the Bible



# 4. TBC Leadership Development Plan

**Titus 1:5-6** ...set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, *namely*, if any man is above reproach...

## • Sunday Night Leadership Training

Lay Elder

1. New Testament Deacon Book
2. Biblical Eldership Book
3. TBC Elder Written Test

Full-Time Pastor

- 
4. Theology I, II, III, IV (Master's Seminary DVDs)
  5. Counseling I, II, III, IV (Master Seminary DVDs)
  6. Expository Preaching, Pastoral Ministry
  7. Original Languages (Hebrew, Greek)

# Years 1-4: Applied Discipleship –

## *Applying what we know*

Goal: Leadership Training & Placement in Specific Ministries

Specialized training and application oriented classes that prepare people for specific ministries and service in the areas of:

**Ministry Volunteers/Lay Counselors/  
S.S. Teachers** (Master's Seminary DVDs – Hermeneutics, Theology, Counseling)

**Deacons/Ministry Leaders** (N.T. Deacon Book)

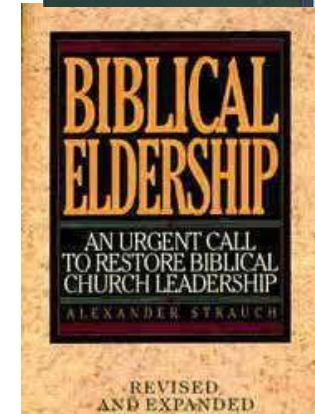
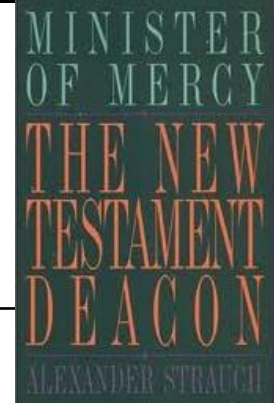
**Elders/Pastors**

(Biblical Eldership Book, MacArthur Pastoral Ministry Books,  
TBC Elder's Test)

**Evangelists/**

**Church Planters, Missionaries**

(EFC Church Planting Boot Camp,  
SGA Bible Institute/Summer Missions Training Program in Odessa Ukraine)



# SO WHAT?

## Application



**Colossians 4:2-6** 2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; 3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God may open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; 4 in order that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak. 5 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. 6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person.