

**Building the Church**  
**Acts 13 -14**  
Lesson 10

OBSERVATION: Read Acts 13

1. After reading through this week's verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
  
2. Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text.

**Key Words:** God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, all references to the apostle Saul/Paul and Barnabas, believe

SAUL AND BARNABAS SENT FROM ANTIOCH (SYRIA): Read Acts 13:1-3

1. Acts 13:1 declares, "*There were certain prophets and teachers.*" Their names are listed in verse 1. What two familiar names do you see?
  
2. What two things were they doing when the Holy Spirit spoke to them?
  - a. Why do you think the Holy Spirit is moved by these two actions?
  
3. What did the Holy Spirit tell them to do? Verse 2
  
4. Notice the phrase *separate unto Me*. What are some synonyms for the word separate?
  - a. Why is it important to separate ourselves to the Lord, when we serve Him?

5. Before those in the church of Antioch sent them away, what three things did they do?
  - 1)
  - 2)
  - 3)
- a. How does this reveal the importance of sending out missionaries?

Take a few minutes to pray for our missions work in West Africa

PAUL AND BARNABAS IN CYPRESS: Read Acts 13:4-12

1. Leaving from the nearby city of Salamis, they sailed to the island of Cypress. Who was with them?
  - a. The first record of this John in Acts can be found in Acts 12:12,25. What do we know about him from these two verses and from Colossians 4:10?
2. They found a man named Bar-Jesus (called Elymas in verse 8). What do verses 6 and 7 disclose about him?
  - a. Why did he withstand Paul and Barnabas? Verse 8
  - b. What was Paul's reaction toward the sorcerer?

We read that Paul's actions were a result of being filled with the Spirit. How is Paul's aggressive approach to dealing with sin a helpful example to follow as we do will personal sin?

3. What did the proconsul do when he saw what had been done?
  - a. The Proconsuls oversaw the administration of civil and military matters in a province. They were accountable to the senate in Rome. While all conversions are important, what might have been the potential of this particular conversion?

Take a few moments to pray for our leaders in government and particularly for their conversion.

PAUL'S FIRST RECORDED SERMON: Read Acts 13:13-41

1. What happened when Paul and his party came to Perga?
  - a. According to Acts 15:36-38, what impression did John Mark's departure have on Paul?
  
2. *When they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue...* The rulers of the synagogue invited share any word of exhortation for the people. Verses 14,15 Who stood up and began to speak?
  - a. This is Paul's first recorded sermon. How did he address his audience?
  
3. Paul, in a style much like Stephen, proceeded to recount Israel's history from the captivity in Egypt to King David. Paul quoted 1 Samuel 13:14. What did Paul remind them about David in Acts 13:22?

4. Up to this point in Paul's sermon, the Jews would have been in total agreement with him. Verse 23 begins a transition, pointing to the Savior. Record this verse.
  - a. The prophecy Paul spoke of is mentioned in the following verses. What do we learn from them?
    - Psalm 132:11,17 -
    - Jeremiah 23:5,65 -
5. Paul retold the account of Jesus' death and resurrection. What three statements did God make about Jesus? See verses 33,34,35.
  - 33-
  - 34-
  - 35-
6. What truths are recorded in Acts 13:38-39
  - a. Define and explain the word justified.

7. What does Paul warn them against in Acts 13:40-41?

BLESSINGS AND CONFLICT: Read Acts 13:42-53

1. What was Paul and Barnabas' reaction to the persecution by the Jews?

- a. What was Jesus' instruction to the disciples in Matthew 10:14?

AT ICONIUM: Read Acts 14:1-7

1. Put on the hat of a newspaper reporter and record the events of Acts 14:1-7.
  - a. List the events that would have encouraged you if you were Paul or Barnabas.
  - b. Paul was a man who could not be easily discouraged. What events might have been discouraging to him or to you if you were in his place?
2. Consider the word *therefore* in verse 3. Dissention was arising; minds were being poisoned against them. Yet, what did Paul and Barnabas do?
4. What do you do in the face of rejection or lack of acceptance from others?
5. Although they fled to Lycaonia, what did they continue to do? verses 6,7
  - a. Many decisions are black and white in the Bible. Others are not. In the account recorded in Acts 14:1-7, we find Paul and Barnabas reacting differently to persecution. Sometimes we are to stay (verse 3) and sometimes we are to flee (verse 6). What can we learn from this?

b. Look up the following verses and record when we are **always to stay** and when we are **always to flee**.

- 1 Corinthians 15:1
- 1 Corinthians 16:13
- 1 Timothy 6:10,11
- 2 Timothy 2:22

AT LYSTRA: Read Acts 14:8-18

1. What did the people say when they saw the crippled man healed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Paul and Barnabas refused to receive the worship of the people. Why is our reaction to people's praise so important?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Using Acts 14:15-17, record the statements Paul and Barnabas made about God.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Act 14:16 states that *God in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways*. What ways did you walk in that you thought were right or acceptable before you came to the Lord?
  - a. How have you made changes from the ways you formerly walked in?

ESCAPE TO DERBE: Read Acts 14:19-20

1. Although those in Lystra wanted to worship Paul and Barnabas, the Jews from Antioch and Iconium had other intentions. What were they?
  
2. What did the multitudes do to Paul? Acts 14:19.
  
3. Notice that when Paul rose up he went back into the city. Upon the threat of stoning, he left Iconium. But, here Paul went back into the city. What does this say to you about the importance of seeking the Lord for direction?

STRENGTHENING THE CONVERTS: Read Acts 14:21-28

1. One of their purposes in these cities was to strengthen the souls of those who had come to a saving knowledge of Jesus. This strengthening came via an exhortation. What did they exhort the disciples to do? Verse 22
  - a. What does it mean to you to continue in the faith?
  
  - b. What did Paul and Barnabas persuade the followers to do in Acts 13:43?
  
  - c. How will continuing in faith and grace cause us to experience more of God?

3. Paul and Barnabas realized the need for elders (pastors). What were some of the elements of appointing elders?
  - a. Why is praying with fasting when elders are appointed so important?
  - b. Why is commending them to the Lord important?

Take a few moments to pray for your pastors

4. Paul and Barnabas were committed to making new Christians, to discipling Christians, and to establishing a church for Christians. What does this say to you about the importance of attending church?
5. Read the words of Acts 14:27-28. Notice that the church gathered together to hear the report of *all that God had done with them*. Why is it important to take the time to hear others talk of God's work in and through the lives of others?

#### REVIEW:

1. In what ways have you been encouraged to pray for those your church sends out as missionaries?
2. What have you learned from Paul's example about the importance of knowing Scripture?
3. In what ways have you been challenged or encouraged by this lesson?