

“Alternative Story Culture” : 4 Circles of Transformation at ASC | Wk 1

1/3/2021 | A Seattle Church: @ASeattleChurch

“Be Different” by [Tyler Gorsline](#)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS (Small Group & Personal):

WARM-UP: “Together” *(use one or none)*

1. Share a story about a time you experienced a culture not your own.
2. What is one of your new year’s resolutions?

WORD: “Truth”

Leader: Questions below should allow for quick responses, evident by close reading of the text. Choose to use some or all of them (pending pace), as reading of the passage(s) will answer them as well.

- **Sermon Recap (if helpful):** Pastor Tyler invites us to consider how transformation happens and how we can play a part. He asserts that change does not occur through revolution or by gradual reform, but by telling an alternative story. Acts 14 tells us the story of Paul and Barnabas journey to share the alternative story that is the Good News of Jesus.

Paul and Barnabas enter the city of Iconium and first go to the temple to speak. Many people come to know Jesus. The religious people are upset because a new thing was happening. Those religious leaders plotted against Paul and Barnabas. P and B leave to go to Lystra (a city filled with mostly uneducated expats from the Roman Army). They meet a man who could not walk from birth. Paul spoke to this man, saw he had faith to be healed, told him to rise. The man got up and began to walk. Pastor Tyler encourages us that the same power that was at work to heal the lame man, is present in all believes in Jesus today. After the man was healed the people of Lystra worshipped Paul and Barnabas. P and B are grieved and respond by trying to redirect their worship the God of Jesus, the One who healed the man. Religious people joined the crowd and stirred a mob to stone Paul and drag him out of city. Nearly dead, Paul gets up and goes back into the city.

Our invitation is to experience the transformation of Christ from the inside out which propels us to live different and be sharers of this alternative story. And be ones who persevere in love when met with discomfort, disagreement or dispute because of what God has done in our lives.

Read Acts 14:8- 22 out loud (as a group) and answer questions
In four sections if helpful vv 8-10, 11-13, 14-18, 19-22

Read vv 8-10

- Where are Paul and Barnabas?
- Who do they meet and what happens?

Read vv 11-13

- How did the crowd respond to the man being healed?
- What did the crowd want to do?

Read vv 14-18

- How did Paul and Barnabas respond?
- What did they tell the crowd?
- What the crowd want to do?

Read vv 19-22

- Who joined the crowd already assembled?
- What did they do to Paul?
- How did Paul respond?
- Did this experience of being stoned changed Paul's mission? How can we tell?

APPLICATION: "Life":

1. Have you heard and responded to the alternative story that is the Gospel?
2. How are we allowing God's Spirit to take root and change us? What can be done to position yourself better?
3. In what ways are we living out and sharing this alternative story? What has gotten in the way currently or in the past?

PRAYER "Way"

1. Lets pray into being those who are transformed from the inside out and living and sharing the alternative story.
2. Do you have any other specific prayer requests?

COMMUNION "Together"

Lead your group in communion in a way that feels right.

- If needed, 1 Corinthians 11:23-27
 - **23** ...that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, **24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **25** In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS at ASC:

1. **Awesome:** ASC has begun giving away 10% of all donations we receive to help support church-planting, biblical justice, and other non-profits serving our city & world!
2. Celebration! Due to your generosity and that of friends outside of our church giving donations of one-time, recurring, appreciated stock, business matching, and recurring gifts, we were able to raise double our goal: \$120k of year-end giving. **Thank you!**
3. **Invite a friend and join us online:**
 - a. Jan 10: We continue in our new Series: Alternative Story Culture
4. **All-Church Prayer Call** Wednesday's from 1230-1pm each week. 1-253-215-8782, 86546382360# .
 - a. Additional Friday morning prayer call starts **January 15 at 6:30am-7am** 1-253-215-8782, 86546382360#
5. **Share testimony** of how God is moving in your life/your group in this season? **HERE**
6. How can we **come alongside you** in more specific ways as a church? **Let us know.**
7. Have you been **baptized?** If that is your next step in repentance and faith, **let us know.**