

## **Unstoppable Kingdom Globally: Kingdom Sending**

Acts 13:1-4; 14:21-28

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

*“Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.” Acts 13:1-4*

*“When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.*

*Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. And when they arrived and 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. And they remained no little time with the disciples.” Acts 14:21-28*

**Main Idea:** The Holy Spirit calls all believers to advance God’s Unstoppable Kingdom everywhere He sends them.

Two important elements of Kingdom Sending in Acts 13 & 14

### **I. The Call to Kingdom Sending (13:1-4)**

#### **A) The Call of God is Born through Intimacy with Him (v1-2)**

*“And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach” Mark 3:13-14*

*“The Spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.” - Henry Martyn (Missionary to India & Persia)*

#### **B) Kingdom Sending Requires Faith (v3-4)**

- **Faith to Go** - Does God get our unqualified “yes?”

*“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.”*

**Hebrews 11:8**

- **Faith to Send** - the whole church is involved in sending.

#### **C) Every believer is SENT**

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

**Matthew 28:19-20**

*“Once more, he who really has this high estimate of Jesus will think much of him, and as the thoughts are sure to run over at the mouth, he will talk much of him. Do we so? If Jesus is precious to you, you will not be able to keep your good news to yourself; you will be whispering it into your child’s ear; you will be telling it to your husband; you will be earnestly imparting it to your friend; without the charms of eloquence you will be more than eloquent; your heart will speak, and your eyes will flash as you talk of his sweet love. Every Christian here is either a missionary or an impostor.” - Charles Spurgeon*

**What does that mean for us here at Salem?**

**You are SENT!**

### **II. The Results of Kingdom Sending (14:21-28)**

#### **A) Kingdom Sending results in Multiplication**

*“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” James 1:2*

*“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” 2 Timothy 2:1-2*

#### **B) Kingdom Sending results in Celebration**

Just like the church in Antioch and the angels in heaven, we can celebrate God's unstoppable kingdom advancing all over the world!

*“Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38*

**Main Idea:** The Holy Spirit calls all believers to advance God’s Unstoppable Kingdom everywhere He sends them.

### **Sources and Further Reading Opportunities**

- *The Bible Exposition Commentary – Warren Wiersbe (1996)*
- *ESV Study Bible – Crossway (2008)*
- *New American Commentary - Acts – John Polhill (1992)*
- *Acts: The Church Afire - R.K. Hughes (1996)*
- *The Message of Acts: The Spirit, the Church, & the World - John Stott (1994)*
- *Acts - K.O. Gangel (1998)*
- *The Acts of the Apostles - William Barclay (1976)*
- *Acts: Bible Study Commentary - F.F. Bruce (2017)*
- *Acts for Everyone Pt 2 - Chapters 13-28 - N.T. Wright (2008)*
- *The Kingdom Agenda - Tony Evans (2013)*
- *“The Last Words of the First Sent One” - Steve Allen (2024)*