

# Empowered for Mission: Sent by the Spirit

## Reflection and Application Handout

Scripture Passage: Acts 12:25-13:12

### Main Points:

1. **The Spirit Sends (Acts 12:25-13:3)**
  - The Holy Spirit sends us on a mission together.
  - **Key Reflection:** How can you contribute to our church's mission?
  - **Application:** Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal your role in our community.
  
2. **Bar-Jesus Opposes (Acts 13:4-12)**
  - Opposition will come, but the Holy Spirit empowers us to overcome.
  - **Key Reflection:** What opposition or challenges are you currently facing?
  - **Application:** Trust in the Holy Spirit's power to help you stand firm and overcome.
  
3. **The Power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 13:9-12)**
  - The Holy Spirit gives us the strength and courage to confront deceit and opposition.
  - **Key Reflection:** Where do you need the Holy Spirit's power in your life?
  - **Application:** Seek the Holy Spirit's empowerment through prayer and action.

### Virtues of a Mission-Focused Church:

1. **Unity in Diversity**
  - **Key Reflection:** How can you celebrate and embrace the diversity in our church?
  - **Application:** Connect with someone different from you this week and learn from their perspective.
  
2. **Dependence on Prayer and Fasting**
  - **Key Reflection:** Are you seeking God's guidance regularly through prayer and fasting?
  - **Application:** Dedicate specific times for prayer and consider fasting as a way to seek God's will.
  
3. **Resilience in the Face of Opposition**
  - **Key Reflection:** How do you respond to challenges and opposition in your faith journey?
  - **Application:** Support and encourage someone facing difficulties this week, and pray for resilience together.

### Weekly Challenges:

- **Prayer and Fasting:** Set aside time this week for focused prayer and consider fasting as a church.
- **Community Connection:** Reach out to a church member you don't know well and build a new connection.
- **Encouragement:** Write a note of encouragement to someone who is facing a challenge.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. How has the Holy Spirit empowered you in your personal life and ministry?
2. What steps can you take to be more active in our church's mission?
3. How can you support and encourage others in our community to stay strong in their faith?