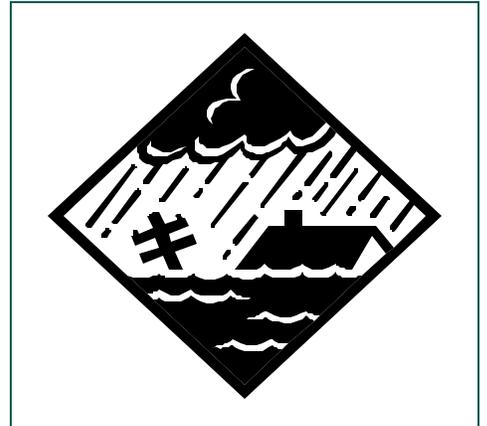


Paul's First Missionary Journey

Acts 13 - 14

What would you do if a friend was caught here?
Everyone in the world are caught in something much more dangerous than this.
What is it?
What can you do about it?



Prayer

Dear Lord, We know that we are sinful people. Help us to be good to each other and to be more like You. Please do not let anything distract us while we learn about how You used Paul and Barnabas to preach Your Word. Thank You for sending Jesus to save us. Amen.

Acts 13-14 (excerpts)

Now in the church that was in **Antioch** there were certain prophets and teachers: {2}As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

In **Cyprus**. {6}Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, {7}who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. {8}But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. {9}Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him {10}and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? {11}" And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you,

and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time."

And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. {12}Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

In **Pisidia**. {14}...They came to **Antioch in Pisidia**, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. {15}And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, "Men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."

(Paul stood up and told the history of the children of Israel, including prophecies of Jesus and forgiveness of sins through His death and resurrection. He finished with a call to repentance.)

{42}And when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that



these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath.

{44}And the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God. {45}But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.

{46}Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles."

{48}Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

{49}And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region. {50}But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. {51}But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium.

In Iconium. {1}Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. {5}And when a violent attempt was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse and stone them, {6}they became aware of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region.

In Lystra. {8}And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. {9}This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, {10}said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked.

{11}Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices,

saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" {12}And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.

{14}But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out {15}and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these vain things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, {18}And with these sayings they could scarcely restrain the multitudes from sacrificing to them.

{19}Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. {20}However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

In Derbe. {21}And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, {22}strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." {23}So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they believed.

{26}...They sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed. {27}And when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

Outer Aim - The Lord called Paul and Barnabas to preach the Gospel in far-off lands.

What the Story Tells Us - Unscramble the places visited and then match each place with what happened there.

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. _____ SRYPUC _____ | A. Bar-Jesus was struck with blindness. |
| 2. _____ YTALSR _____ | B. The people thought Paul and Barnabas were gods. |
| 3. _____ MUONCII _____ | C. The Holy Spirit told Paul and Barnabas to preach. |
| 4. _____ BEEDR _____ | D. Paul preached a long sermon about Jesus. |
| 5. _____ TINHCAONIIDAIPS _____ | E. Paul and Barnabas preached here awhile. |
| 6. _____ NACITHO _____ | F. Paul and Barnabas heard they were going to be stoned and ran away. |

What God's Word Tell Us - Discussion Questions.

1. How did the different people in this story receive Paul and Barnabas' preaching?
2. Why did Paul say God's Word would be spread to the Gentiles more (Acts 13:46-47)?
3. Why can we be just as bold as Paul and Barnabas in preaching God's Word (Isaiah 55:11)?
4. What are some ways we can help spread the Gospel?

Your Turn - Take turns naming 2 people you know who haven't heard about Jesus. Write their names below.

Prayer - Make up a prayer asking for the Holy Spirit to guide you to talk to the people you listed above. You may make the prayer together as a class.

Inner Aim - The Lord calls all believers to preach the Gospel to everyone.

Passages

Mark 16:15 - "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Romans 10:13 - "For whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Isaiah 55:11 - So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

1 Timothy 2:4 - (God Our Savior) desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Hymn - TLH #507

Spread, oh, spread, thou might Word,
Spread the kingdom of the Lord,
Wheresoe'er His breath has giv'n
Life to beings meant for heav'n.

Tell them how the Father's will
Made the world and keeps it still,
How His only Son He gave
Man from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer's love,
Who forever doth remove
By His holy sacrifice
All the guilt that on us lies.

Tell them of the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us up to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.

Up! The ripening fields ye see.
Mighty shall the harvest be;
But the reapers still are few,
Great the work they have to do.

Lord of Harvest, let there be
Joy and strength to work for Thee
Till the nations far and near
See Thy light and learn Thy fear. Amen.