

# Paul's Mission to the Gentiles

Acts 13-14

## MAIN IDEAS

- Saul's (Paul's) First Missionary Journey as appointed by The Holy Spirit
- Paul Turns to the Gentiles in the Face of Opposition
- Preaching & Persecution

Chapter 13 begins the second and final section of the book of Acts. The first 12 chapters focus on Peter and the Jewish church in Jerusalem and Judea; while the remaining chapters revolve around Paul and the spread of the Gentile church throughout the Roman world. In many ways the second half of Acts mirrors the first half:

- Read Acts 1:26, 2:4, and 13:1-3. What similarities do you notice with the beginning of Peter's and Paul's ministries?
- Read Acts 8:9-24 and 13:6-13. What do you notice?

Whenever he entered a new city, Paul began by preaching to the Jews before he approached the Gentiles. Why do you think he did this?

What was the intent of Paul's miracle (13:11-12)?

Just as in Peter's missions, the pattern of preaching and persecution continues throughout Paul's ministry. Nothing got in the way of Paul's determination to preach the gospel. Reference Acts 13:44-52

- Why were the Jews suddenly opposing Paul?
- How did Paul and Barnabus respond?
- How did the Gentiles react to the Word of God?

Read Acts 14:15-17. How did Paul adjust his message to appeal to the pagan audience of Lystra? How did the Jews from Antioch and Iconium react (14:19)?

## PERSONAL RESPONSE

Paul encouraged the disciples to continue in the faith and told them that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God (14:22). How does this shape your expectations of the Christian life?

Just as Paul took the light of the gospel to a dark world, we are to do the same. Who are you willing to share the gospel with to advance the Kingdom of God? What tribulations might you face?

Pray for an opportunity to be a light to help bring salvation to someone this week.

## GROUP RESPONSE

Share any experiences you have had when sharing the gospel.

Share a time you faced tribulation or persecution when sharing the gospel.

Commit as a group to seek opportunities to share the gospel.

## REPRODUCE

Consider seeking an accountability partner from your group to share with and pray with as you gather courage to share the gospel to advance the Kingdom of God.

## KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Acts 13 and 14

Additional verses from the study:

- Acts 1:26
- Acts 2:4
- Acts 8:9-24
- Isaiah 49:6