



The Living God

Introduction: Paul and Barnabas continue to preach the gospel. There are some who receive the good news of Jesus and others who reject the good news. They enter a gentile town and the Lord does the miraculous. They return back to Antioch and share the outcome to the church and celebrate the work of God.

Text: Acts 14

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: Have you ever made a stand for your faith in front of a group of people? How did those in the group respond? How did you respond if you faced opposition?
2. Underline everywhere where Luke mentions Paul and Barnabas sharing the gospel. (There should be at least 7). Why is it important that we preach the gospel?
3. When it says that they “spoke in such a way” and they were “speaking boldly” . . . what image comes to your mind? Why do you think they spoke with power? What other examples in Acts show the boldness of those who preached the Gospel?
4. Why did the unbelieving Jews want to stone Paul? How do “unbelievers” today react to the gospel claim that salvation is found in Jesus and in him only? What evidence of hatred to the faith do you see in our culture? What do you know about the persecuted church around the world? (visit the voice of the martyrs web site).
5. Thankfully, we live in a land where people are not physically abusing Christians. How does our culture abuse Christians? (at the work place, college campus , high school, friend group)
6. How does the crippled man from birth represent the condition of lost humanity? How was he healed? How are we saved?
7. Paul first told the people of Lystra that they needed to turn from their vain gods to a living God. This would represent the need to repent. What does it mean to repent and why is this necessary?
8. Why does Paul tell them to turn to a “*living* God?” What is Paul communicating to them in his message in vs 15-17?
9. Paul encourages the believers, after his near death encounter, by telling them that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. Why is it important to realize this truth? How does this contradict the prosperity gospel preachers today?
10. Read 2 Timothy 3:12. Are you experiencing (or have you experienced) what this verse says?

Think About it:

The good news is that the creator God loves mankind so much that he took on flesh and died for our sin and rose again. We serve a God of the living and not the dead. We must place our faith and trust in Jesus! As believers, it is important that we share the good news of Jesus. We must confess what we possess. Our lips need to declare the good news of Jesus and our lives need to demonstrate the good news of Jesus. Bold living come from a heart and mind that is 100% confident that Jesus is the one true God. When you are convinced that Jesus is the living God then there will be no person or institution that can convince you otherwise. Do you know the living God?

Moving Forward:

Pray for boldness this week. Spend time reading the word of God and hearing from the Spirit of God. Ask the Lord to give you a discerning spirit and evaluate the news, entertainment, and political arenas and see how many of them have a hatred to the gospel? Invite someone to church this week. Pray for a lost friend or family member. Seek to live a life that bring glory and honor to Jesus.