

Acts 14
Look What God is Doing!!

1. Iconium 1–7

- a. The gospel message brings division
- b. Opposition is met with boldness
- c. “Signs and Wonders” are works of God performed to support the gospel message.
- d. Gospel hostility draws opposing sides together in great animosity.

As we focus on gospel mission, people will respond with either repentance or resistance, to which we must persevere in boldness, trusting God to work through our loving acts and words.

Questions:

Are we experiencing division and opposition?

Are we being sure to keep the primary purpose of gospel mission primary in our outreach ministries?

2. Lystra 8–20

- a. New settings and new situations require new approaches to gospel presentation.
- b. Once people have gotten the wrong impression, it is incredibly difficult to bring them back to the gospel message.
- c. If gospel mission is the main thing, even major set-backs should not deter us.

New settings and situations require us to bring new approaches to gospel mission, seeking to avoid misunderstanding and refusing to allow major set-backs to derail the mission.

3. Derbe and Back 21-28

- a. Upon reaching Antioch, Paul and Barnabas gave a positive report of what God had done to bring faith to the Gentiles.
- b. Paul recognized that we must all experience a variety of hardships and trials as we enter the Kingdom of God.
- c. Once people respond to the gospel, the mission continues until they reach maturity.

Remembering that gospel mission is an ongoing development into maturity and that part of that maturing process will include hardship and trials, will help us look beyond the circumstances of the moment to see what God is doing.

Questions:

How have you been able to turn what appeared to be a negative into a positive by looking to what God is doing?

How has God used others to help disciple you into maturity?

What might be a next step for you in your growth to maturity? Have you considered a discipleship coach?

Who are you discipling to maturity?