

# **The Gospel Effect**

## **Acts 13:44-52**

### **1. Gospel Draws People- vs 44, 49**

The city gathered together at the synagogue to hear the “Word of the Lord”, and the message spread throughout the region because the Gospel message is what draws people.

The gospel message is what draws people to Christ and not how dynamic or qualified the messenger is.

### **2. God’s Grace Saves vs. 47-48**

**a) God’s Planned Saving Mission vs. 47**

**b) God’s Active Power Saves People vs. 48**

Through God empowering Paul and Barnabas’ message, the gentiles learned salvation was for them, and the Holy Spirit created faith in Jesus in the hearts of those chosen to believe.

Humanity is blinded by sin, unable to comprehend the gospel, and unwilling to receive it until God through his intentional saving grace begins enlightening their hearts with a faith response.

### **3. Guided by Responses**

#### **a. Rejecting the gospel vs. 45-46, 50-51**

Although the Jews began to oppose the gospel message and stirred up others to persecute and expelled Paul and Barnabas from the area, they turned their focus on the receptive gentiles, and no longer pursued the opposing Jews.

#### **b. Accepting the gospel vs. 52**

The Gentiles believed and received eternal life despite the opposition, and persevered after Paul and Barnabas had left for Iconium, as they were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

When we share the gospel where God is already working, we will focus on those who are receptive, and not pursue those who reject it.

#### **Main Idea:**

When we proclaim the gospel, God is the one that draws people to the truth, He intentionally creates faith in the hearts chosen to believe, and guides us to focus only on those who are receptive.

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## Deployment

“Remember, our Message is not about ourselves; we’re proclaiming Jesus Christ, the Master. All we are is messengers, errand runners from Jesus for you. It started when God said, “Light up the darkness!” and our lives filled up with light as we saw and understood God in the face of Christ, all bright and beautiful.”

2 Corinthians 4:5-6, MSG

1. We are God’s messengers, and what an honour it is to tell others about the gospel. However, there are times when our thoughts create a fear towards sharing the gospel with someone else. What thoughts have you had that caused you to be overwhelmed with fear and hindered you from sharing your faith with someone?
  
2. We are only called to be God’s messenger, as God does the rest through His amazing power. Take a look at the following passages that shows us the different ways God uses to draw people to himself, and convicts them that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6).
  - a) The Power of God’s Word (Hebrews 4:12-13; Isaiah 55:11)
  - b) The Power of the Gospel (Romans 1:16-17; 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5)
  - c) The Power of Empowered Prayer (Colossians 4:3-4)
  - d) The Power of Loving Service (Matthew 5:14-16)
  - e) The Power of Loving Other Christians (John 13:31-35)

How do these verses inspire you to share the gospel?

If someone tells you that fear is keeping them from sharing their faith, what truths would you share with them and what possible steps could they take to put those truths into action?