

Family Discipleship Resource

May 3-9

(Acts 14:8-28)



G – Gather for Prayer

Father,

Grant me the strength to meet every moment in the right way so that your mission can move forward.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

R – Read the Text (Acts 14:8-28)

⁸ At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. ⁹ This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well, ¹⁰ said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk. ¹¹ When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us." ¹² And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. ¹³ The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. ¹⁴ But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out ¹⁵ and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶ In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; ¹⁷ and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." ¹⁸ Even saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

¹⁹ But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. ²⁰ But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. ²¹ After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." ²³ When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

²⁴ They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia. ²⁵ When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. ²⁶ From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished. ²⁷ When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. ²⁸ And they spent a long time with the disciples.

O – Observe what God has said

What kinds of people does Paul engage here? How does he choose to engage them? What does he say?

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What kinds of people do you engage? What could you say to help them take one step closer to a relationship with Jesus?

What practices does Paul endorse as the ministry grows?

What are some good practices people might engage in the church to encourage the ministry?

W – Work on Application

The presentation given in this passage reveals how God's people should meet the moments that they face in their lives as they are on mission today. Are you facing a problem today? Choose to meet it with God's power. Are you engaging people around you? Give them the gospel. Are you facing persecution or the threat thereof? Persevere my brother/sister. Are things progressing in the right direction? Manage that progress with good practices (keep the main thing the main thing, prove an encourager, delegate ministry opportunities, keep moving, report what God is doing, look to the long term).

Which of these situations/moments would you fear the most? Why?

What moment is hitting you right now? How will you meet it with God's help?

Family Weekly Memory Verse: *"When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.."- Acts 14:27*