

THIS IS HOW WE GOSPEL

Week 3: Paul and Barnabas in Antioch of Pisidia

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Healthy discipleship groups focus on the pillars of the Word, prayer, relationships, and evangelism. This guide will walk broadly through Acts 13:26-14:23 with the goal of observing, interpreting, and applying the text to our own evangelistic efforts. This week's big idea is to really question **what will we do when people respond to the Gospel?**

CONNECT

- How did **your** heart respond the first time you heard the Gospel? What was that experience like for you?
- What sorts of responses have you seen or received yourself from others as you have shared the Gospel? Why do you think they responded that way?

INTRODUCTION

In Acts 13 and 14, we have a great opportunity to examine Paul and Barnabas' ministry to Antioch of Pisidia with practicality in mind. The goal of which is to really drill down into how we handle different responses to the Gospel message, and hopefully gain tools and perspectives that strengthen our witness. And be certain—the Gospel of Jesus always elicits a response in the hearts of those who hear it (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23). So today, we want to look at **the Gospel proclamation** being made, **the expectations** Paul and Barnabas held as they peach, and what **the outcomes** were for all involved.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Acts 13:26-41

- In verse 26, Paul lays out a kind of thesis statement "... to us has been the message of this salvation." What two points does Paul focus on as his Gospel presentation in versus 26-31?
- In verses 32-37, Paul turns to the Scriptures to validate his points. Why might he have done this? What was the value of backing up his claims this way?

Read: Acts 13:42-52

- In these verses, we see the various reactions of those who hear this Gospel message. How would you characterize these responses in verses 42-45?
- Starting in verse 46, what can we glean from Paul and and Barnabas' words that give insight into what their expectations might have been?

APPLICATION

- **Read 14:1-7.** Paul and Barnabas employ the same methods they had in Antioch here in Iconium—go the Synagogue, preach to both Jews and Gentiles, and steward the various reactions responsibly. Discuss the value of having a defined and repeatable plan or method.
- **Read 14:8-18.** In demonstrations of God's power to save, some will seek to attribute that greatness or power to you and me. Why must our witness remain Christ-centered? How are we to resist the temptation to steal spotlight from Jesus?
- **Read 14:19-23.** Paul and Barnabas never quit—even at the hardest moments. Why must we endure through the hard times of ministry? How do we endure?

PRAYER

- Pray that the Holy Spirit gives us wisdom and courage to respond correctly to all people as they hear the Gospel message, and equips us to do so well.