

Study Guide Questions

Acts of the Apostles 13:4 -18:22

Summary:

Paul's First Missionary Journey (Scripture 13:1-14 and 28)

Missionaries: Barnabas, Saul, John Mark

Highlights: Elymas blinded in Paphos

John Mark abandons the mission

Persecution from Jews

Paul stoned in Lystra

Churches established

Second Journey (Scripture: 15:36-18:22)

Missionaries: Paul, Silas, Timothy and Luke

Highlights: Visit to churches

Paul's vision of the man from Macedonia

Philippian jailer

Paul preaches in Athens

Third Journey (Scripture 18:23-21:17)

Missionaries: Paul, Luke, Timothy and others (20:4)

Highlights: Paul stays about three years in Ephesus

Riot in Ephesus

Paul returns to Jerusalem

1. Has there been a time in your life when you left the familiar and apprehensively faced an unknown future? Describe your experience and the role your faith played, if any, as you faced something new.
2. What do you think the church would have looked like if the men of Cyprus and Cyrene had followed custom and only preached to the Jews in Antioch?
3. We own a tremendous debt to those who shared the gospel with our ancestors in the faith. How do you think we ought to repay that debt? Who told you the good news (i.e. who is your spiritual parent)? Who told them? How far back can you trace your spiritual ancestry?
4. Pastor Alan stated, "Following Jesus is an adventure. You don't know where it will take you." Are you fearful of that adventure? If so, why and if not, why not? How willing are you to climb aboard for the journey wherever it takes you?
5. Not everyone can go to distant places but each of us can play a part in the gospel's advance. How would you describe the part you play or would consider playing in world evangelization?
6. Why is it important for Christians to embrace a world missionary perspective as opposed to merely being parochial (see Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8)?
7. Why do you think it is necessary to be tenacious in our evangelistic efforts? Can you think of examples of such tenacity in Acts 13:4 - 21:17 illustrated, perhaps, in Sunday's message?
8. Paul set his heart on preaching the gospel in Rome but he hardly expected to get there through arrest, imprisonment and guarded escort. Have you ever had an experience where you sensed God lead you in some unexpected way? If so, can you describe it?
9. Paul and the others could have easily been distracted from fulfilling God's missionary call. What are some of the ways they were hindered in their work? What are the things that tend to distract and discourage us in doing God's work?
10. One of the goal of CFTN is to have us all engaged in some mission project, locally or internationally. What way have you or can you become involved in mission?