

Embarking on Your Mission
Date: 4/17/16

Read Together

Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.

Scripture passage: Acts 13-14

Acts 13-14 unveils the first missionary journey in the history of the Church. Called to go, and sent out by God, followers of Christ set out to share the Gospel. Going forward in Acts, we will see a travel log of these journeys, but Acts is not where missionary life ends. Indeed believers, then and now, are called to *Go There* with the Gospel. The same wind of the Spirit that drove Paul and others is still moving the church today, continuing the work of Christ for generations to come. As we capture the essence of Paul and Barnabas' first journey, daily we must also recapture God's intent in our own lives for missional living. We are all called to gather and go. We must focus our lives and our future on the Gospel as God opens doors of opportunity, even in the midst of adversity, so He can blend lives and build faith for the Kingdom.

Pray Together

Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise** Jesus: Our Redeemer, Sustainer, and Supplier.
- **Repent** from any complacency in living life on mission.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to help you surrender your will for His.
- **Yield** to the Spirit and trust God to guide and help you share the Gospel in your daily life.

Discuss Together

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful

- Describe any missionary journeys you have been a part of (short-term mission trips, volunteer ministry projects, etc.).
- How was your mindset on these journeys the same or different from your "everyday" mindset?

Read Acts 13:1-3

- Describe the call of Paul (Saul) and Barnabas to their first missionary journey. What confirmed their call? What was their response? How were they sent?
- What do you learn from this example?
- In acts 13:4-14:18, Paul and Barnabas move through four geographical areas as they share the Gospel. Describe what happens at each missionary stop.
- Pastor McKinley emphasized that all believers are missionaries. Some are called to go "somewhere out there," but we are all called to live on mission for God. What does this mean to you?



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Read Matthew 28:19-20

- What are we to do according to this passage?
- Share how you are currently “making disciples.”
- What should the central message be as we “make disciples”? (See Acts 13:5, 26, 28-32 & 38)
- Following Christ opens amazing doors of opportunity, but we must always prepare for adversity. Read Acts 13:8-10, 12:25, 13:5, 13, 13:44-51, 14:2-5, 19-20 and discuss the opposition that occurred.
- How did Paul and Barnabas respond?
- Describe a time when you were sharing the Gospel and encountered adversity. How did you respond?
- How can we guard ourselves and be prepared for adversity?

Read Acts 14:19-28

- What did Paul and Barnabas do after the difficult circumstances in Lystra?
- Following Christ blends our lives and builds our faith together. How was this true of the first missionaries? How is this true for us today as we work together for the Kingdom?

Do Life Together

These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader’s responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately, a disciple-maker.

What are you doing right now to make disciples? Is there someone in your life God has given you to share the Gospel with and then teach so they can mature in the faith? If not, will you ask God to bring someone into your life this week so you can begin?



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