



The Acts of the Spirit

GATHERING THE CHURCH

ACTS 12:25-13:3

"THE COMMISSIONING"

APRIL 7, 2024

SERIES RESET

As we resume our series in Acts, let's reset and refresh what God has stirred in us so far in the series.

What has stuck out from our Act series so far?

How would you summarize the following themes from the beginning of the book of Acts?

- How the Church Began
- Opposition the Church faced from outside
- Opposition the Church faced from the inside
- How the Gospel spread beyond Jerusalem
- How the Gospel Spread to the Gentiles

How has this series impacted/informed what you should

Think?

Believe?

Do?

What fruit have you seen in your life from studying the book of Acts so far?

What do you want to prioritize putting into practice as the series continues?

THIS WEEK'S SERMON DISCUSSION

Pastor Joey preached about Paul and Barnabas being "sent" as the first missionaries to a specific group of people with an intentional purpose. But Pastor Joey noted that doesn't mean the same thing in our cultural context. Paul and Barnabas were sent out as missionaries from a group of everyday missionaries who had already been "Gossipers of the Gospel." This group of people was already actively sharing the Gospel wherever they went. Sending Paul and Barnabas wasn't a break from the norm; it was just the next logical step.

ACTS 12:25-13:3



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That is because they only knew one reality: being an early Christian equaled being a missionary. Sharing the Gospel in challenging situations was a lifestyle for them. God has called us to a different time, with different circumstances. One of the challenges God has stewarded us is that we must work harder to live the way he intended us. Fueled by grace, we must intentionally develop a lifestyle of evangelism, or it won't happen.

The first step is to embrace the same level of "sent-ness" that Paul, Barnabas, and the early believers had. We must see ourselves as sent to someone. With that in mind, let's read and apply the text to our lives with joy and courage.

Read Acts 12:25-13:3

- What jumps out to you from the text?
- Who do you feel God has sent you to and why do you feel that he has?
- What would it feel like if you stepped out in faith to share the gospel with that person?
- Which of the following feels like the biggest obstacles that keeps you from going to those people? Please explain why.
 - Feelings
 - Life Circumstances
 - Cultural Norms
 - Doubts/Beliefs
- What is in your control that you can do to overcome that obstacle?
- What is outside your control that you need God to help you overcome?
- What action step do you feel prompted to take this week?
- What do you need from this group to support you?



This document can be used for either personal or group reflection.

Group facilitator: you do not need to ask every question but can select the best ones for your group dynamic.

Prayer

Spend time in prayer on your own or in a group setting:

- For the rest of our Acts Series
- For our courage and a faith to share the Gospel
- That God would open people's hearts to the Gospel
- Opportunities to share the Gospel
- By name for specific individuals you feel called to share the Gospel with