

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of April 27, 2014

This Week's Focus: Paul and Barnabas at Antioch in Pisidia

This Week's Text: Acts 13:13-52

Is the gospel "elementary" truths as opposed to "advanced" truths? No. The gospel does not relate so much to the rest of Christian truth as the first step relates to a staircase, but rather as the heart relates to the rest of the circulatory system (or as the brain relates to the nervous system). The rest of Christian truth is just an unfolding of the gospel — it is the working out of its implications and ramifications, intellectually, spiritually, behaviorally. **Tim**

Keller

"May we look to Him who is declared to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead, that by faith in him we may walk with God, and serve our generation according to his will; and when death comes, may we fall asleep in him, with a joyful hope of a blessed resurrection." **Matthew Henry**

Related Texts: Matthew 10:14–15, Romans 5:6–11, Acts 1:8

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- How has God spoken to you regarding the sermon and/or text?
- Why would Paul and Barnabas have been in the synagogue? How does this tie back into Acts 1:8?
- If you were asked to give an account, in private or public, of what you believe, what would you say?
- What does it mean to contextualize the gospel? Why is this so important in living on mission?
 - How does getting to know our neighbors and co-workers enable us to do this better?
- Read through Paul's presentation of the gospel. Who is Paul's target audience?
 - Would his gospel presentation work with a pagan audience? Why or why not?
- Paul presents the gospel through a lengthy rundown of the history of Israel and shows how that ties into the person of Jesus Christ. What does this show us about the importance of knowing and understanding our Bibles? What steps can we take to learn and understand the scriptures better?
- Read verses 17 – 32. Who is the constant through out the narrative? Who is the main character in Scripture and in our lives? Where then should our focus be as we live out our lives on this Earth?
- What was the initial reaction of the Jews and God-fearers following Paul's gospel presentation?

- For what reason did the Jews turn from embracing the words Paul and Barnabas spoke, to rejecting and contradicting them?
 - How are we guilty of contradicting others within the faith for similar reasons?
- What is the significance of Paul and Barnabas shaking the dust from their feet against them? Reference Matthew 10:14-15.

Gospel Celebration:

- Through trusting and believing in the work of Christ we have been freed from all unrighteousness. By no other means is that possible.
- “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

Prayer Focus:

- Rejoice, for we can see clearly that God has remained faithful to His promises from the very beginning.
- Repent of doubt and mistrust in God's faithfulness.
- Pray for opportunities to give an account, and boldness to do it clearly and effectively.

Next Week's Text: Acts 14