



Share Your Faith

By Terry Kountz on February 22, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Acts 13

"And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 13:52).

In Acts 13 we find Saul (who will start going by Paul) and Barnabas had been set apart to work for the Lord. This is the beginning of their missionary journeys.

The journeys of Paul and Barnabas show us the life of a missionary can be very rewarding and very difficult. They encountered resistance from the Jews and Gentiles alike. In Salamis, they proclaimed the Word of God in the synagogues. Then they came upon a magician named Bar-Jesus, who did not want the proconsul to hear about God. Paul confronted him and told him he would go blind temporarily, which happened and the proconsul believed in Jesus.

Then they moved on to Antioch in Pisidia. They were invited to share a word with the people gathered at the synagogue there. They shared a powerful, impassioned gospel message. The people wanted to hear more! The next Sabbath day, the entire town showed up to hear Paul and Barnabas speak.

But the Jews who did not believe what they were preaching caused problems for them. They were jealous of the crowds that appeared to hear Paul and Barnabas. So they opposed them and drove them out of the town. This is the shift for Paul and Barnabas. They went to the Jews first. Although some did believe, they were now going to focus on sharing the good news with the Gentiles.

Some were intrigued by the message the missionaries shared. Some were enraged by it. Some believed it completely, and the messengers were filled with joy. We should expect to encounter similarly mixed results when we make the gospel known.

Who have you shared your faith with recently?

PRAYER: Lord, give me the courage to share the gospel with those around me, knowing that I cannot control the outcome. Help me find joy in telling others about You.

TOMORROW'S READING: Acts 14

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