



Mission and Multiplication

Acts 13:1-3

Discussion Questions

September 24, 2017

1. This week we resume our study in Acts – which we first began toward the beginning of this year. Before jumping into Acts 13, spend some time reviewing the first 12 chapters of Acts. A few questions below can help “prime the pump” of your review. (You’re encouraged to scan Acts 1-12 as you respond to these questions!)
 - Read Acts 1:8. How does this verse summarize the theme of Acts? How has this verse “come to life” in Acts 1-12?
 - What major events or characters stand out to you from Acts 1-12? Why?
 - What do we learn about the life and mission of the early church in Acts 1-12? What should this mean for us today, as we continue the story of the church?
2. Now read Acts 13:1-3. How does this passage advance the “theme” of Acts 1:8 in a fresh way?
3. Look closely at Acts 13:2. Why is it important that “worshipping” and “fasting” were closely connected to the sending of Saul (Paul) and Barnabas in verse 3?
4. What happens if we disconnect the mission of God from the worship of and seeking after God? Or put another way, what happens if we focus only on working FOR God but neglect our relationship with Him and dependence on Him?
5. It’s significant that Paul and Barnabas show no signs of resistance to this sending. Nor do the other church leaders listed in Acts 13:1 show any concern about “empty slots” that need to be filled in the absence of Paul and Barnabas. How can we cultivate a willingness to go on mission ourselves, and a willingness for other people to be sent on mission?
6. Being sent “on mission” for Jesus doesn’t always have to do with going to another part of the globe. How can you approach your current spheres of influence (e.g. family, career, neighborhood) as a place you’ve been “sent” to live on mission for Jesus? What might this look like practically?
7. What experience do you have with taking steps of obedience in line with God’s command to “go” and tell others about Jesus? (You can read more about this in Matthew 28:19-20.) As you took these steps of obedience, what lessons did you learn about God and what He’s doing?
8. What are the biggest obstacles to viewing our lives as “on mission” for Jesus – carrying the gospel out into our spheres of influence? What will you do to overcome these obstacles in your own life?
9. What is one practical step of application you need to take in light of what you’ve learned from Acts 13:1-3? Share this with your group, and pray together for these things before finishing.
10. Challenge: Memorize Acts 1:8, a “theme verse” for the book of Acts: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”