



How The Good News Spreads

Paul's First Missionary Trip

Acts 13:1-13

How The Good News Spreads

Understanding How The Process Works

(1) Everyone needs to play THEIR POSITION.

Acts 13:2/ 1 Peter 2:9/ Colossians 3:17

(2) Look for **OPEN DOORS**.

Acts 13:5/ Matthew 10:14 & Luke 10:10-11

(3) Take the time to **EARN** the right to be **HEARD**.

Matthew 4:23-25/ John 10:36-38

(4) Speak up when ASKED.

Acts 13:7/ 1 Peter 3:15-16/ Matthew 5:16/ 1 Corinthians 5:12-13

(5) Expect OPPOSITION.

Acts 13:8/ 2 Corinthians 11:14-15/ 2 Thessalonians 2:9/ Acts 13:9-11

- (6) Don't look for a **FIGHT**, but don't **RUN FROM ONE** either.

 Acts 13:8-11
- (7) Lasting **DECISIONS** are usually the result of **MANY FACTORS**.

 Acts 13:12
- (8) Expect some **SETBACKS**.

Acts 13:13 & 15:38/ Matthew 13:1-23

Moving The Needle

√ From Atheist to Apostle

-3 -2 -1 0 +1 +2 +3 -3 -2 -1 0 +1 +2 +3

Food for Thought

For the week of August 16, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study & discussion)

WHAT'S YOUR HIGHLIGHT?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

This weekend, Larry laid out eight principles for how the Good News is spread. Which one (or two) speak most loudly to you in understanding your personal role in the process?

- 1. How have you previously practiced these principles in your life?
- 2. How can you see yourself playing out the part(s) you selected in the future?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. While we are taught to expect opposition, we don't always respond in the best way when opposition presents itself. What do the following verses tell you about how you can be encouraged in this area going forward? Circle, highlight or underline key action phrases that stand out to you.

1 Peter 3:9 New International Version (NIV)

⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Luke 6:28 New International Version (NIV)

²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

Proverbs 3:29-31 New International Version (NIV)

- ²⁹ Do not plot harm against your neighbor, who lives trustfully near you.
- 30 Do not accuse anyone for no reason when they have done you no harm.
- ³¹ Do not envy the violent or choose any of their ways.

Titus 2:7-8 New International Version (NIV)

⁷ In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness ⁸ and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Titus 3:2 New International Version (NIV)

² to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.

2. Larry shared this weekend that we shouldn't look for a fight but we shouldn't back down from one either. We've also learned that no one has ever been argued or shamed into the Kingdom. What guidelines can you draw from the following verses that teach us how to respond to people with truth but also in kindness and gentleness?

1 Peter 2:23 New International Version (NIV)

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

1 Peter 3:15-16 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1 Corinthians 5:12-13 New International Version (NIV)

¹² What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? ¹³ God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked person from among you."

Matthew 18:6 New International Version (NIV)

⁶ "If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. (See also Mark 9:42 and Luke 17:2).

3. From the Atheist to Apostle continuum in this week's notes, can you think of one or two people you can help to move in the direction of becoming an apostle?