



Main Passage: Acts 13:1-5

Theological Theme

God was working through the church at Antioch. Saul and Barnabas were strong leaders there, but the Holy Spirit called them to go out and spread the gospel to other places because multiplying the church matters. Because God cares, He sends the best.

Introduction

- ❓ **Share about a time your career grew rapidly. What was the catalyst for this to happen?**
- ❓ **How can you transform that experience for kingdom impact?**

1. Called Out (Acts 13:1-2)

To begin this chapter, Luke named and described each of the leaders of the church at Antioch. This group of believers had the privilege of enjoying teaching from several strong men of faith with diverse backgrounds. They brought value and insight from their various life experiences that blessed their congregation, and as a result, it was flourishing.

- ❓ **What value do you see from having leaders with diverse backgrounds? How have you seen this reality in your own experiences?**
- ❓ **How have you found yourself to be comfortable to the point that you resist new things the Lord may be calling you to? How might you seek change in this area?**

2. Answering the Call (Acts 13:3)

Once the Holy Spirit spoke, it was time for a response. The church did not delay with questions about details or more specifics. These followers of Jesus sought God in their daily lives, and when He spoke, they responded immediately and without questions or excuses. That is an excellent example for us to follow. If we aren't careful, we'll become sidetracked by asking questions and making excuses about why this timing is not right, instead of doing what God directs us to do.

- ❓ **When was a time you became sidetracked by asking questions or making excuses when God spoke?**

- ❓ What might God be calling you out toward in this season of your life? How do you need to respond?

3. Living Sent (Acts 13:4-5)

Verse 4 says they went out in the power of the Holy Spirit. This may seem a bit redundant after the previous verses, but Luke emphasized that it was not by their own power that they went out. In their own strength, their impact would have been quite limited. In the power of the Holy Spirit, they had unlimited potential.

- ❓ What would it look like for you to minister relying on the power of the Holy Spirit as you go about your daily life and when you interact with other people?
- ❓ Do you think about this kind of ministry regularly or do you view ministry as an activity that is limited to certain followers of Jesus or that takes place at certain locations? Explain.
- ❓ What is God calling you to do to be part of the effort to take the gospel to places and people who need Jesus? How can our group join this effort together?

Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

1. What does this passage say?
2. What did this passage mean to its original audience?
3. What does this passage demand of me?
4. How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
5. How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?
 - Global Mission Trips: <https://brentwood.church/serve/global/>
 - Discuss your group's ongoing mission project. If you have not declared one yet, see BBC's local missions partner page to discover one - <https://brentwood.church/local-missions-opportunity-finder/>

*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).