



THE HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

THIS WEEK AT THF

▶ WEDNESDAY

THF STUDENTS - Worship & Small Groups
7:00pm-8:30pm ~ Doors open at 6:30pm

▶ THURSDAY

THF Men's Ministry - Bible Study & Fellowship
6:30am-7:30am

UPCOMING AT THF

JANUARY 20 - THF College Spring Semester Begins

January 11, 2026

Please continue to check all of our social media outlets and our website for updates to weekly activities and Sunday Services.

www.theheightsfellowship.org

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

January 4, 2026

BUDGET GIVING: \$23,278.26

BUDGET NEEDS: \$8,530.00

YEAR TO DATE

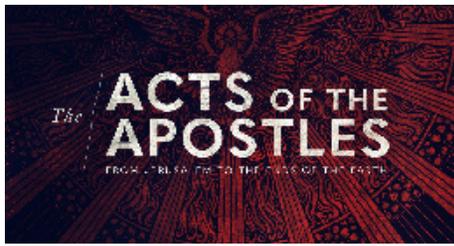
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THEREFORE...

"The greater the effectiveness of a ministry, the greater the resistance and opposition."

- Tim Keller



"People who do not know the Lord ask why we waste our lives as missionaries. They forget they too are expending their lives, and when the bubble has burst, they will have nothing of eternal significance to show for the years they have wasted." - Nate Saint

BEING 'ON MISSION' WITH GOD IS -

Sending and Supporting Acts 13:1-3

Going and Preaching Acts 13:4-52

Serving and Suffering Acts 14:1-20

Developing and Organizing Acts 14:21-26

Revealing and Reporting Acts 14:27-28

End of Chapter 13, Paul and Barnabas had left the trouble in Pisidian Antioch and gone on to Iconium

There were two general truths in traveling in the ancient world -

1) Most of the major population centers were on *major water sources*
(coasts or rivers)

2) The *further inland* you moved, the further away from population centers - and **protection** - you moved

Iconium was about **100 miles** inland (SE) from Pisidian Antioch

In God's work - **TROUBLE** becomes **OPPORTUNITY**

In a very difficult place - they evidenced the **POWER** of God

THE POWER OF SPEAKING THE GOSPEL vv1-2

The gospel always **POLARIZES** !

⁵¹ Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I have come to bring strife and division! ⁵² From now on families will be split apart, three in favor of me, and two against — or the other way around. ⁵³ There will be a division between father and son, mother and daughter, mother-in-law and daughter-in-law." Luke 12:51-53 nlt

They used their '**SYNAGOGUE STRATEGY**'

They '**SPOKE IN SUCH A WAY**' - whatever they said worked

There were **DECISIONS** - **LOTS** of them!

- A **GREAT MULTITUDE** - *polù*=remarkable; *plēthos* - large number

- It was both **Jews** and **Greeks** (Gentiles) who came to believe

There were **DISSENTERS**

- They **REJECTED** the message

'**disbelieving Jews**' = *apeithesantes* - **unpersuadable**; obstinate

- They **stirred up** - *epegeiro* - to **provoke** or rile up; whip up

- They **embittered** - *ekakosan* - **poison** (NIV); to affect for evil

EFFECTIVENESS and **OPPOSITION** go hand in hand in living for Jesus!

I shall remain in Ephesus until Pentecost; for a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries. 1 Corinthians 16:8-9

THE POWER OF PERSISTENT PRESENCE v3

Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands. v3

Therefore connects the ACTION to the REASON -

the disturbance, the disbelief, the division was intense and real... v2

SO THEY STAYED v3

— they stayed for **A LONG TIME** - not a lot of *information* but **TIME**

— they **SPOKE BOLDLY**

— they **RELIED** on the Lord

— they **DEMONSTRATED** His **POWER** (as He granted them)

— '**a long time**' = *hikanos* - a considerable, or **SUFFICIENT** amount

Know the difference between those who come to feed the soil and those who come to grab the fruit. - unknown proverb

— they stayed to bring **STRENGTH** and **STABILITY** to the church

THE POWER OF MIRACLES vv4-10

IF THE DEVIL CAN'T GET YOU BY PERSECUTION, HE WILL GET YOU BY PRAISE!

— the power of miracles was intended to show the **POWER OF GOD** and their need to **DEPEND** on Him

— God **REVEALED** the man to the team and gave the power to them (cf v9)

— The healing in **LYSTRA** prompted the **opposite** of Matt 5:16

THE POWER OF HUMILITY vv11-20

— The exuberant response was actually a **CORRECTION** to a legend

— Their humility led to immediate **PROBLEMS**, and incredible **POWER** ! **I BELIEVE THIS IS WHERE PAUL GOT 2 COR 11:25;12:1-10**

— The disciples of Lystra rallied around Paul as he went back into town!

"Every man gives his life for what he believes...sometimes people believe in little or nothing, and yet they give their lives to that little or nothing. One life is all we have, we live it and it's gone, but to live without belief is more terrible than dying, even more terrible than dying young." - Joan of Arc

WHAT DO YOU BURN FOR?

terrible than dying young."

THF LIFENotes

1-11-26

1. When Paul and Barnabas boldly spoke the gospel, some believed while others became opposed. What helps you stay faithful to speaking about Jesus when you don't control how people will respond---and what fears most often hold you back?
2. Even with opposition, Paul and Barabas stayed a long time, trusting the Lord to work through them. What does "staying present" in a difficult place or relationship look like for you right now, and how do you discern when to remain versus when to move on?
3. God confirmed the message through visible works of power that pointed people to Him. How have you seen God work in ways---big or small---that strengthened your faith or opened a door to share the gospel with others?
4. When the crowds tried to worship them, Paul and Barnabas quickly redirected all glory to God---even at great personal cost. Why is humility so crucial when God uses us, and how can we guard our hearts against pride when ministry or obedience becomes fruitful?