



HomeGroup Discussion Questions

Week 3: Sep 27-Oct 3

What kind of life should a Jesus-follower expect to have? One of ease and free of opposition? Maybe one that's accepted or even admired by everyone watching? If you have a pulse, you know that's not the case! The Bible speaks of real consequences for those who follow Jesus. In one sense, it is the safest place on earth; on the other hand, though, it is a place where we should expect trouble. One question we want to land on today is *how can we encourage and strengthen each other when trouble comes?*

MAIN TEXT: Acts 14

CONNECT

1. True or false? Christians I know have faced trials or suffered because of their faith.
2. Multiple Choice: What comes to mind when you hear that Christ-followers should expect to face trouble or difficulties because of their faith?
 - A. Let's change the subject!
 - B. I feel guilty for having a relatively easy life.
 - C. I feel terrified because of what it could mean for my life.
 - D. I don't believe it's true for me.
 - E. Something else: _____ (fill in the blank)

LEARN

3. Overall, how do Paul and Barnabas respond to the persecution and suffering they face in this chapter?
4. Where is God while Paul and Barnabas are being opposed? From the text, where do you see Him being either active or absent while Paul and Barnabas are facing persecution?
5. What do you notice about Paul's explanation of the gospel in verses 15-18? According to Pastor Thomas, why doesn't Paul start by explaining what Jesus has done?
6. If it's true that "through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God," what do we see Paul and Barnabas doing to help other believers face this reality?

APPLY

7. What do you think this passage teach us about the importance of not only demonstrating or displaying the gospel, but also explaining the gospel?
8. The crowd in Lystra mistook God's work for the work of their familiar idols or false gods. What familiar idols or false gods does our culture give credit to rather than the one true God?
9. What can we learn and apply from Paul's explanation of the gospel in vv. 15-18 for talking to others about the gospel?
10. Based on the passage, what kind of life should we as Jesus-followers expect? What can we do to better strengthen and encourage each other along the way?