

## LG 11: Good News Acts 13

**Objectives:** We want to understand the message Paul preaches on his first journey. We want to personally receive and experience forgiveness and freedom. We want to offer this forgiveness of sins and freedom to others we know.

### Launch

In Acts 1, Jesus tells his followers that they were to be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. In Acts 8, persecution causes the followers to be witnesses to Judea and Samaria. In Acts 13 we see them head off to “the ends of the earth”

### Explore

#### Read Acts 13

The Church in Antioch was one year old (see 12:26) when they sent off 2 of their most mature solid leaders.

- Why did they do that?
- Why would God send off their main leaders/disciplers?
- Weren't there people in Antioch to reach? To be discipled?

What would happen to your Life Group if 2 of your most mature leaders left to reach out to other people?

Where would you send them if you had a choice?

Who did they share Christ with in this chapter? [Jews at a synagogue(5), a magician(6), a Roman leader (7), another synagogue (14), whole city including Gentiles (44), the whole region(49)]

What does this communicate to us? (that we should spread the gospel broadly to all people- the religious and non, leaders and non leaders...)

In verses 16-41 we have the sermon that Paul preached to the Jews in Antioch of Pisidia.

Summarize his main point from 16-37? (God is the active God of history, and all of history points to Jesus)

- Why would this message be relevant to his audience?
- How could sharing about the God of History be effective in sharing with in a post-Christian culture?
- In verse 32 he calls his message “good news”. What was so good about this news? (freedom and forgiveness of sins are freely offered)

- Christ has commissioned us to take His “good news” to people at MSU. What part of the gospel message do you think is “good news” for people at MSU?
- Who is a person you know that would like to know about being forgiven by God or about receiving freedom?
- What does a person need to do in order to receive forgiveness and freedom? (believe- verse 39)
- What does Paul want them to “believe”? (He wants them to believe or trust that Jesus' death and resurrection is enough for forgiveness of sins. Following rules or being religious is not the way...)
- What is the warning about in 40-41? (it is a quote from Habakuk 1:5 where God was warning his people that if they did not repent of their rebellious ways he was going to send terrible things. They did not repent and they were taken into exile. Paul, is warning Jews who know this story that there are consequences to rejecting the God of history)

### Apply

- Have you received forgiveness and freedom from God?
- Do you live your life as a forgiven and freed person? *Allow for a minute of reflection!* Why or why not?
- Do you feel confident in explaining to your friends how they can receive forgiveness from God? What can we do to help you?
- Pray for each other and for your friends to be able to receive forgiveness and freedom from Christ.

### Announcements (5 minutes)

